



Daily Report

Near East & South Asia

FBIS-NES-88-008
Wednesday
13 January 1988

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FBIS-NES-88-008

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LD131359 [Editorial Report]

Israel

Gaza, West Bank—"Major riots" prevented UN Under Secretary General Marrack Goulding from visiting the Rafah refugee camp 13 January, IDF radio reported. The situation in the Gaza Strip was otherwise quiet apart from an incident in which IDF soldiers fired to disperse a crowd, injuring one local resident. Inhabitants of the territories continued their commercial strike and a curfew remained in force on 12 refugee camps, the radio said, noting that the absence of Arab labor is causing losses to some Israeli industries. Regarding the killing of a Gaza resident by the IDF 12 January, IDF radio said the man was an Islamic Jihad activist who tried to stab a soldier. The incident brought to 33 the death toll arising from the unrest in the past 5 weeks.

Related Political Developments—During a 13 January meeting the Inner Cabinet approved IDF policy in the territories but rejected Minister Ari'el Sharon's proposal to establish a "minicabinet" to make decisions in the security-political sphere, IDF radio reported. A "serious" argument erupted between Foreign Minister Shimon Peres and Sharon when the latter accused Peres of seeking to hand the old city of Jerusalem over to Jordanian King Husayn.

In another development, THE JERUSALEM POST reported that Peres intends to reactivate the peace process in the near future, noting that the foreign minister has sent a message to Egyptian President Husni Mubarak emphasizing his determination to continue to work for peace. Peres also told a Knesset committee that King Husayn is prepared to assume responsibility for the Gaza Strip, adding that Husayn would take "good care" of security in the area, according to Jerusalem radio. "Anyone who rejects a dialogue with Jordan is clearing the path for dialogue with the PLO," Peres asserted in an interview with the radio. THE JERUSALEM POST cited an interview with Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir in which he said he "does not object" to holding bilateral talks with the inhabitants of the territories on the basis of the Camp David autonomy proposals.

Iran-Iraq War

IRGC ground forces, along with Iraqi Kurdish forces, launched a new operation, codenamed "Zafar-5," inside the northern Iraqi province of Dahuk, Tehran radio announced 13 January. IRNA added that the combatants entered the town of Dahuk, destroyed an Iraqi base near Kirkuk, and inflicted over 500 casualties.

The Iranian claims were dismissed by an Iraqi spokesman, who told INA that the Zafar operations are "not military operations" but merely "propaganda." The spokesman denied that fighting has occurred in the areas

mentioned by Iran, stressing that the Iranians are "completely unable to penetrate this far into Iraqi territory" and that the situation is "stable" in northern Iraq.

Iran

Tehran radio broadcast a letter to Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni from a number of Majlis deputies who lauded Khomeyni's 11 January letter to President 'Ali Khamene'i as "the best possible present to the Islamic Ummah." The Imam's letter has neutralized the "plots" of "the enemies of Islam and the opportunists" who sought to use Khomeyni's earlier 7 January letter to Khamene'i as part of a campaign of "insinuation and character assassination" to "crush" and "destroy" President Khamene'i, the deputies asserted.

Regarding the role of the Council of Guardians, Tehran radio noted that the Council's secretary told Khomeyni in a 13 January meeting that the Council "fully accepts" Khomeyni's statements regarding rule by a jurisconsult and governmental decrees, adding that the Council "considers itself subordinate to governmental decrees." A Council spokesman cited by IRNA stated earlier that Khomeyni's recent rulings have given the Council a "freer hand" to endorse Majlis legislation, and he said the Council will endorse the Labor Bill approved by the Majlis.

Egypt

Mubarak's Gulf Tour—President Mubarak arrived in Qatar from Kuwait on the fourth leg of his tour of GCC countries, WAKH reported. The president's talks with Amir Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad al Thani centered on the main issues confronting Arab and Islamic states including the Iran-Iraq war, Cairo radio noted. The discussions also focused on the Palestinian issue, with the two leaders praising the "courageous Palestinian uprising," and on the Lebanese problem.

'Ayn Shams Student 'Riot—Clashes broke out between students and police at 'Ayn Shams University during protests against last week's detention of students staging pro-Palestinian demonstrations, AFP reported. Antiriot squads were called in to quell the disturbance. In a statement to MENA, an Interior Ministry source indicated that there were no deaths or casualties, but that 10 "ringleaders of the riot" had been detained.

Libya

Al-Qadhdhafi Speech—In a 9 January address to the pan-Arab conference of ruling Arab parties in Tripoli carried by Tripoli television, Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi urged amendment of the Arab League Charter to create an Arab federation. The federation would be composed of presidential, executive, foreign ministerial, and industrial councils, which would have "constitutional structures and prerogatives." Al-Qadhdhafi warned the conference that if they do not act to unify

themselves, the reaction of the Arab people "will be violent." The conference, in its final resolution, set up a committee to inform Arab countries that did not attend the conference of the federation plan and to "follow up its fulfillment," JANA reported.

Algerian Leader's Visit—Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid departed Tripoli for home 12 January after concluding talks with Al-Qadhdhafi. Algiers radio reported. Describing as "positive" the resumption of Tunisian-Libyan relations and Algerian efforts to strengthen Maghreb contacts, the station added that the two sides also exchanged views on the Saharan, Chadian, and Palestinian questions.

Sudan

In a communique carried by the clandestine SPLA radio 12 January, Sudanese rebels claimed the capture of Kapoeta, 150 miles east of Juba, following 10 days of fighting.

Lebanon

A UNIFIL spokesman cited by Voice of Lebanon radio disclosed that a Australian UNIFIL soldier was killed and a Canadian colleague injured when their vehicle hit a mine during a routine patrol in the Israeli security zone.

Inter-Arab Affairs

Further on Arab Ruling Parties Conference

Al-Qadhdhafi Opens Session

LD120940 Tripoli Television Service in Arabic
2112 GMT 11 Jan 88

[Speech by Libyan leader Mu'ammarr al-Qadhdhafi at opening of pan-Arab conference of ruling Arab parties in Tripoli on 9 January—recorded]

[Text] In the name of God. Dear brothers, good evening and welcome to this, your own country, the Jamahiriyyah. My thanks and gratitude to you for responding to the invitation to attend this meeting.

As we know, this land recently hosted a meeting of opposition parties in the Arab homeland, and I believe that the results achieved by that conference can be considered as positive. These results require self-confidence and follow-up work so that they might be fruitful.

This pan-Arab move of active and dynamic forces is culminating in your meeting today. The pan-Arab facts and the virulence of the battle against the Arab nation—I mean the historical facts which unite more than they divide—have made me optimistic. I therefore think that there is the possibility of an Arab movement and unified Arab action. There is also the possibility of Arab unity and, consequently, there will be the possibility of victory, God willing.

The land of the Jamahiriyyah is proud of your presence here, dear brothers. It is only a venue for meetings and not a center, a pan-Arab center in this case. Matters lie in your hands and the decision is yours with regard to the action you want to take. We are meeting here as forces, which are believed to be active in the Arab homeland, in order to decide on what we can. There is no domination, no diktat, and nothing prearranged. We are now meeting with our own will and of our own choice, and we can discuss, decide, and work in complete freedom. Each according to his ability, not each according to his needs.

I have confidence that the forces, the forces gathered here, the political forces, are effective. The proof for this is that they have been able to reach a position of ruling and leadership in the Arab countries. This cause for confidence is proof that they have the ability for work and initiative. If there are political systems which have a social background, it is one of the criticisms addressed to the Arab political movements that they are tribal, sectarian, regionalist, and so on; that is, the criticism arising from study and analysis is that any political movement in the Arab homeland is a facet of a tribe, a faction of regionalism and populism, or something of this kind.

However, this is a fact in general and it is not useful or logical to ignore reality. It is useful and logical to change reality and overcome it if this reality is not suitable, not appropriate, and not useful.

Naturally, the Arab social reality is backward and has also been retarded by colonialism. It has been much retarded as a result of Turkish and Western colonialism and, as the Arab environment is rural, the long arm was that of the tribe, the clan, and those with high rank, power, and money.

However, our development to the point where we have reached these political movements, parties which have revolutionary names, and revolutionary and political tendencies and movements, is proof that we have the ability to develop our reality and to overcome it [word indistinct]. The bad thing is to stop in one place or at one stage and freeze, to stagnate and linger in one place, and to lose the progressivism which is our justification to history and development. Anyone who loses progressivism loses his bond with history and consequently will be backward, will perish, and will be finished.

There are dearer parties than those parties. We have the honor today to meet with them here. They have a glorious history in the defense of the Arab nation, resistance to colonialism, and struggle against it.

Processes of amalgamation and separation have taken place in order for these parties to have the form they now have. This makes us more confident in our ability and the ability of these parties to create and innovate. Naturally, [word indistinct] to mention these things despite the fact that they are worth mentioning; however, you know them very well and you know them better than I with regard to your parties and their deep-rooted history, although from time to time some academicians (?beat me) in the analysis of these issues.

Another thing to add is that the movements, the parties, or fronts are necessary (?as) they have classes, as the classes coexist; thus, it is necessary that (?you have) a class which has a voice, is defended, and is a platform, and consequently there is a press which expresses the voice of the workers, a press for the farmers, a press for those with capital, a press for the government, and so on.

Likewise, there should be political movements for defending the rights of these classes. If the employers constitute a class which requires a party to represent it politically, then, naturally, the workers will have their own parties, too, because they also constitute a party for that class.

In a class society there naturally should be parties to express the interests of those classes. As to societies such as the Arab society and its like, academic studies and analyses say it should not have classes in the classical sense and consequently it is not proper to have parties in the Arab homeland.

What we need is a revolutionary society that transcends all groupings in the Arab society against the adversary: imperialism, backwardness, and Zionism [words indistinct].

Generally, as a result of this study and analysis of the past and struggle of these parties, I am confident that through your meeting we could come up with something historic and your meeting could be considered a historic one. This is because never before did opposition parties and ruling parties in the Arab homeland ever meet at a single session as one organization, one family, and one political leadership.

It is a bad thing, as I have mentioned, to stay in one place, to stand in one place, and to be inactive and rigid. That would be death itself. But this step, this meeting, has broken this withdrawal into our shells and destroyed the barrier that stood in the way to our work, creativity, progress, liberation, and unity.

Nobody has ordered us to meet, but we as Arabs sense by ourselves the issues affecting us, and we are meeting to tackle them and to tackle our fate. Otherwise, we will die, because the others, the enemies, will not have mercy upon us and they will not say to us: Act, for you are in danger from us and so you should meet.

This meeting and this response are due to psychological factors. Every one of us feels that there are serious challenges threatening the future of the Arabs—indeed, the future of the Arabs will become completely doubtful if things continue the way they are going. The situation in the Arab homeland is completely deteriorating and the reputation of the Arabs has fallen. What I mean is that historic insults have been dealt to Arab dignity, let alone the great doubts that exist materially, and not only morally, such as dignity, honor, and so on. From a material point of view, this concerns the entire existence of the Arabs as a race and as an entity between the Gulf and the ocean if things continue in their present state of abominable deterioration.

All the forces surrounding the Arabs maliciously hope that this deterioration will continue until this entity disappears. There are some who will feel relieved at such a state of affairs. This is because, fortunately or unfortunately, the Arab nation lives in a very sensitive region in the world, a marketing and strategic region, which controls, as we have often mentioned, key spots in the world: the Strait of Gibraltar, the Suez Canal, the Gulf of Aqaba, and the Hormuz Straits; abutting the Red Sea, the Mediterranean, the Indian Ocean, and the Atlantic. It is the center of world communications. It is a bridge between East and West and between North and South.

All those around us do not want to see a power which imposes itself in this region. They want this region disturbed, a vacuum, weak, so that their crossing can be made easy. When 'Abd al-Nasir nationalized the Suez Canal they regarded that as an act whereby an Arab put

his hand on one of the strategic keys in the world, and therefore they mounted a tripartite aggression—that is, three states, including two major powers possessing nuclear weapons, France and Britain, carried out an attack on an Arab state because they considered it as having done something impermissible. How can an Arab hold one of the strategic keys in his hand? As far as they are concerned, such keys should be in their pockets and not in the Arabs' pockets.

We now believe that their struggle, I regret to say, has succeeded, as the Suez Canal now is fair game to them and is no longer in the hands of the Arabs. The best proof of this lies in the passage of the enemy—the Israeli enemy—freely through the Suez Canal. Therefore, the Suez Canal is no longer Arab. It is not in our hands. That means one of the keys has been taken away from us. It looks as though the tripartite aggression has succeeded. The compromise that took place in Egypt made us lose the victory over the tripartite aggression—the victory has turned into a defeat after a number of years. The United States now passes freely through the Suez Canal, that is to say, the nuclear-powered warships, which are banned according to international conventions from passing through the Suez Canal, actually do pass through the canal. Nuclear-powered U.S. warships pass through the Canal without any objection, as if they were passing through their own canal. The Suez Canal now is being used as an artery providing life to the Zionist entity, strengthening it, and beefing it up.

They used to pass from occupied Elath to the occupied coastline of Palestine via Africa—via the Cape of Good Hope. Now they pass from Elath through the Suez Canal to the coast of Palestine and vice versa. This is a great loss. The enemy has triumphed over us and and taken this key from us.

I mean that there is a struggle for this region which aims at keeping this region weak, a vacuum, subjugated, and without any strength. If we take the initiative to build our own strength and fill the vacuum, there is nobody around us who will say to us: You are in danger. I personally, as a revolutionary, should not say anything racist, but as Arabs, we cannot ignore this aspect. When the Europeans sit together, they say something which is racist in this form; their opinion of the Arabs and their attitude to the Arabs is undoubtedly racist: the Arabs, like the Red Indians, should be annihilated; they are a dangerous race. These are lessons which are being taught in Europe and the United States day and night. The Arabs are a dangerous race, uncivilized and barbaric. They hate Jesus and Mary and the Christian Church, and they destroyed the Church when they conquered Europe, and if they become strong they will conquer Europe again; their prophet Muhammad is a charlatan, a magician, a racist, who harbors hatred, a destroyer, and a womanizer—all these things are said.

We recognize Jesus and whenever we mention his name we follow it with "Peace be upon Him". We recognize Moses. But they do not recognize Muhammad. They say

it is a problem because if they recognize Muhammad there will be no Christianity and Islam; even Pope Shenuda, the one in Egypt, is a Copt; one would assume that he is an Arab, but he is a Copt. I personally discussed the matter with him and he said to me: We do not recognize your prophet Muhammad. He said: If Muhammad was a prophet, there would no longer be Christianity and Islam; we would all be Muslims. Muhammad was not a prophet. This is what Pope Shenuda, the Coptic Pope of Egypt, said.

A professor in Britain, who quarreled with the Arabs, asked me: Does not the Koran contain the laws of Hammurabi [ancient king of Babylon]? I said: How? How absurd? He said: From my school days—at elementary and secondary schools, and then at the university—I was taught that the Koran contains the laws of Hammurabi, collected by Muhammad in the Koran. He said: Is not the Koran the laws of Hammurabi collected by Muhammad, and you call it now the Koran. I said: No. The Hammurabi laws were discovered in 1905; that was the first time that the world knew that there was a tablet on which the Hammurabi laws were written, containing 82 articles. That was in 1905. But Muhammad existed before that—hundreds of years before that; he existed about 2000 years ago.

All right, the rules on personal status were similar to what Hammurabi had to say on personal status, and the Koran included something about it. However, the rest of the Koran has no connection with the rules on personal status. How can you claim that? He said that we Christians are taught that they are Hammurabi's laws, and Muhammad is not a prophet. And is it right that you do not like trees, buildings, and settlements, and that you hate all these things?

He said that this is what their teachers in the Church teach them. He was a good man. He said they are taught these things in church and school. They say that the Arab is barbaric and uncivilized, opposed to greenery, the color green, trees, civilization, and settlements, and if he possesses arms he will destroy the world. The Arabs had previously crossed the sea and destroyed you and stayed 800 years in Spain and 300 years in southern Europe. And Carthage had attempted to destroy Rome. However, luckily, Rome defeated Carthage in 146 B.C. and had it not been for this historic victory by Rome over Carthage, he said, wiping it from the face of the Earth—they plowed over its site—there would have been a danger to Europe from the east, and Europe would have been different.

This is according to their studies. They are always watching us. These things, naturally, are racist, and the struggle between us and them can take only this form. It is racist and they are filled with greed to own these Arab countries and its resources. The Arabs must not industrialize these resources so that we can take them to our factories. The Arabs must not industrialize so that we can export every consumer commodity to them. They

must not acquire military power enabling them to levy ransoms on us or to say no to us in the Gulf of Aqaba or at Gibraltar. The Strait of Gibraltar is now completely in the hands of Europe. It is closed on both sides, the Spanish side and the side opposite it, which is also Spanish, and Spain is a member of NATO.

Let none of us be taken for a ride by being told that the southern side of the Strait of Gibraltar is Arab and belongs to Morocco. It does not belong to Morocco, it belongs to Europe, it is occupied. When they expelled us from Andalusia they followed us until they occupied this position. Morocco has no control over the southern side of the Strait of Gibraltar. It is completely in the hands of Europe. You only hear of Ceuta and Melilla but it is not only Ceuta and Melilla; it is a long strip of Morocco which is occupied so that they can ensure that both sides of Gibraltar are European.

You will know the concentration of efforts to control the Gulf of Aqaba, the Horn of Africa, and the whole area. The same applies to the Strait of Hormuz. The Suez Canal has already been controlled, and you are aware of the fight over the Gulf of Sidra.

The United States is 4,000 miles away and comes to the Gulf of Sidra. When we told it that this gulf is ours and is inside our country, it said that we are terrorists who are threatening U.S. vital interests abroad. They declared an emergency in the United States because Libya threatened U.S. vital interests and sanctions should be imposed and it should be threatened and hit with bombs.

At the same time the United States is a friend to some Arabs—it kills one Arab and befriends another. The Israelis are slaughtering the Palestinian people and the Arabs. They are sharpening their knives against the Syrians, while the Egyptians shake their hand and other Arabs shake the hand of the Egyptians. Has treason become a matter of opinion? This is what I am saying: If things continue the same way, then the Arabs' future is in doubt. We will be like the Red Indians, which is what they want. When they talk about Arabs they talk about them as a religion and a race. The religion constitutes a threat to Christianity and Judaism and to deceit and witchcraft. As a race it is considered a backward one, hostile to civilization, barbaric and uncivilized, and humanity has no advantage in leaving this race alive or in letting it get stronger while it possesses the means that enable it to carry out its evil intentions.

They would not hesitate to do it. They distributed blankets infected with smallpox so that people would die en masse. That is what the Yankees have done.

The United States would do things that the devil would hesitate to do. When it kills, it kills large numbers. These peaceful streets faced the U.S. and British laser bombs in our times, which we do not call colonial times. There is

no historical period called the colonial period. Colonialism is related to conditions. If these conditions happen to exist, then it is there, in the past, in the present, in the future. It is a matter of weakness and power. It is a natural law—even the air moves from a high pressure zone to a low pressure zone. The theory of the communicating vessels is the same thing. When there is water, it can only (come to an even level). A vacuum must always be filled. Eisenhower's project to fill the vacuum in the Middle East is well-known here. Thus, the natural law has become a political one.

There is a vacuum in the Arab world, which will be filled. It is being filled by the United States, by the Israelis, and by all forms of neo-colonialism. There is no such thing as saying that colonialism has ended and that we are in a civilized period. There is no such thing whatsoever. The war between Rome and Carthage continued for 118 years. Decades would go without war, then it would resume again. The war between us and Europe ended in 146 B.C., but suddenly it attacked Algeria and Tunisia in 1830, and attacked Libya in 1911. After how many years did France, Britain, and Italy attack the Arab homeland? After about 2000 years. It resumed as though it were yesterday. These are related cycles, and a continuous conflict. There is no such thing as the end of the colonial era. They are deceiving us. Whenever conditions are there, colonialism is there. The conditions now exist for filling the vacuum. There is a vacuum. This is what makes us... [Al-Qadhafi changes thought] I am really sorry I have to mention this, but I remind the faithful because it is always good to do so, and I believe that you are faithful to your cause and your struggle, and that you belong to struggling parties, whose struggle is honorable, and which have a long history of defending the Arab homeland.

For these reasons, we have set ourselves the aim of fulfilling the necessary unity of the Arab nation. The time has come for us to do something about achieving the unity of the Arab nation. We will not wait for the heavens, or the earth, or the sea, or the ocean, or the United States. That is impossible. Either we unite or we see our end.

Nations have never tired of sacrificing anything for their unity until they achieved it. It is only the Arab nation which has come this far without unity, which is regrettable, because these are called the times of social revolution, which have witnessed the beginning of social conflicts—not even national ones—without our reaching national unity.

Italy was like us: kingdoms, republics, emirates, and districts. They had to fight. Garibaldi fought until he united it. It was like this: An Italian republic would ask for Spanish help against another neighboring Italian republic, or it would ask for the help of a French

province against another neighboring province. However, the Italians never stopped until they united the country. Italian income is now more important than that of the Arab countries, despite the oil and all that we have.

Do not think that the Arabs are too big to form a state. That is wrong. We would be a medium-sized country if we united from the Atlantic to the Gulf. This is an obvious fact which we are regrettably not considering. There are people who believe that the Arabs are too big to unite in one country. Never. We are a medium-sized country, our income is less than the Italian one.

From now on, one should not talk about Libya, Kuwait, Tunisia, Lebanon, or Syria as countries that could survive and remain in our times. That is impossible. In our times, the world around us is invading space and colonizing planets, and setting up space stations. What could Kuwait, Libya, Bahrain, Qatar, or Djibouti do in our times? Impossible. In that case, let us sign our end and say good-bye, if we want to continue talking like dwarf states or paper states.

Our existence has aroused the avarice of our enemies, who are now thinking of decimating us further. They are now thinking that after the Israeli battle on the northern fronts... [incomplete sentence as heard] They will not stop on the northern front until they finish it. This is because their strategy, after removing the forces of the southern front, namely Egypt, from the battle, is to lay all their weight on the forces of the northern front. The northern front is the Palestinian resistance, the Lebanese national movement, and Syria.

They have begun to destroy the Palestinians within the Lebanese national movement. Their ultimate objective is Syria. If Syria were to fall by the will of God, they would advance with full freedom in the Gulf and the peninsula. Who would stop them? Would they be deterred by Cadillacs or Mercedes or such things? Those are the things that are there. Gold, silver, and women. Those are their assets. Can they stop the enemy from advancing? Impossible.

The enemy is now continuing with its plans. A grave thing is awaiting us. Once they finish the northern front, they will return to Egypt to divide it in two: a Coptic state and an Islamic state. Naturally, if they triumph in the east they will divide it into small mini-states; a state for the Druze, another for the Maronites, a third for the Sunnis, a fourth for the Shi'ites, and so on. They will even divide Syria into hamlets [tabikiyat] and transform Iraq into hamlets, in a return to the era of the hamlets of Mosul, Aleppo, Damascus, and so on. They will do that. They have such a plan.

There is indeed, an idea to reconsider Sudan's identity. I have had discussions with African leaders. They told me the issue under discussion in Africa now is the reconsideration of Sudan's identity. We cannot accept Sudan as

Arabic. Indeed, they asked me as a revolutionary: How do you say Sudan is Arabic and Islamic? This is a reactionary standpoint. You are a revolutionary and hence you must say Sudan is revolutionary. Just imagine. I told them: By God, if we are to reconsider the identity of Sudan, we must reconsider the identity of every other place and this would mean an end to the Arab existence from the ocean to the Gulf, because the Arab existence from the ocean to the Gulf is based on Arabism and Islam and on the Arabic language.

If they say we must reconsider the Arabic and Islamic identity and language of Sudan, this will lead afterwards to the reconsideration of the Arabic and Islamic identities and language of Egypt and that of northern Africa and the Berbers. As for the Berbers, who were of Arab origin before Islam and who came from Yemen—you have deceived them and set up studies and centers for them and taught them and taught the world during the era of colonialism that they were not Arabs at a time when they were Arabs. They created a Berber nation and an Arab nation in North Africa.

I said, well, if you reconsider the identity of Sudan, then the country will break up. The identity of the entire Arab homeland would be reconsidered. Matters will not stop at Sudan. This is a serious matter, but they are determined to carry it out: to reconsider the identity of Sudan. They will try to show that the Arab homeland was a mosaic, every color forming one part. This is what is happening now.

If anyone of us believes in the instruction which says the nations will rally around you like wolves on a prey, then he would be proven right. The Arab homeland represents a morsel and the hungry rally around it.

Hence there is a need for a serious stand, by which we shoulder our historic responsibility toward ourselves, our nation, and the future generations. You, as ruling parties, are responsible for this truly bad and dangerous era.

This meeting provides us with a good opportunity. I cannot find the words to express my admiration and appreciation for your presence here today as brothers, not, in fact, in response to a call from us or to hear us tell you to do this or that, but to meet in one of our folds. It could be Libya or it could have been any other place in the Arab homeland. It happened that it was appropriate to meet in Libya, which is your land and your house. But you are actually meeting with each other, and not with the Libyans or with me. The Libyans are only a part of you. It is a meeting by us, with ourselves, to find out what we can do for this nation's future.

What is certain is that matters can continue no longer in their present state of affairs. This cannot be. As parties in power, I believe, it is in their interest that the change should take place by peaceful means and with their own will; otherwise, if there is an attempt to block the current,

its impetus will cause an explosion. The Arab homeland will resort to violence after that, and there would be underground action. This is because it will feel that it is finishing anyway, and so it must meet its end resisting.

A nation of 150 million remains on the sidelines when its people, with its women and children, are being killed daily by the bullets of the enemy, without it doing anything. This is a great insult to Arab dignity. It is no longer an honor to say in Europe, Asia, or Africa: I am an Arab. Are you an Arab? We know that you are defeated, destitute, backward, dominated by the United States and beaten by the Israelis; you have immense capabilities which you have not utilized. You do not think. They go even to the extent of accusing us of being mindless. How is it that you do not use your capabilities to serve your interests?

Something must be done. First, I would like to see something written in the constitutions of these parties: Struggle for the Arab nation, to be written in immediately. These parties can do it, because at one time they wrote the struggle for independence and liberation in their programs.

Indeed, revolutions broke out in South Yemen, Djibouti, Libya—I mean contemporary revolutions. Revolution formed part of the programs of the political movements now in existence. Indeed, the revolution triumphed in countries that were under colonial rule, such as Syria, Sudan, Algeria, Tunisia, and Morocco. These parties wrote liberation and independence into their programs. We have decided that Algeria shall live [line from Algerian revolutionary song]. This means that some had decided that Algeria shall live and the people truly realized this, and Algeria now lives.

All these parties are the by-product of struggle. At some point you decided to struggle, and you did. The Sudanese parties in existence at present triumphed over Great Britain at that time. Thousands of British soldiers were killed or taken prisoner.

Algeria offered 1.5 million martyrs. There were immense sacrifices, which are like legends. The Setif massacre in Algeria in 1945 claimed the lives of 45,000 martyrs in a single day, 8 May. Just imagine: 45,000 martyrs in a single day.

Now the entire nation is required to offer 45,000 martyrs, but not in a single day. If we offer that, we will unite and liberate ourselves and we will triumph. We will also become a nation with its head up before other nations. Therefore, we are able—I mean I am confident—that these parties are capable of deciding, and it is imperative henceforth that we decide in our program, in other words, that we inscribe unity and the liberation of Palestine in our constitutions. As we said in the past: liberation, independence, and constitution. That phase is over; now is the time for unity and the liberation of Palestine.

Naturally, we have come to a point where when we mention unity we mention the liberation of Palestine, and vice versa. The other point is that something must be done for Palestine. We cannot possibly stay like this; otherwise, it is better to be dead than alive. Something must be done for the people of Palestine and the land of Palestine. Either we go to war, a regular war or a people's war, but we cannot remain like this. We must do something for the revolution going on in Palestine; this is an urgent matter, a very urgent matter. Every country must give something, let us agree on that, and this must be sent immediately. Medicine, food, clothing, anything. Something must be done. There are people encircled inside an occupied land; they are encircled by the enemy who is killing them. The nation hears their groans and cries. What is the reaction of this nation? Who should respond? You. Are you waiting for the United States to tell you: Come on, you Arabs, go and see what is happening to the people of Palestine. Or India to tell you: The Palestinian people are in a bad situation. It is impossible; we have our conscience. We see with our own eyes everything that goes on.

As ruling parties, there was one point which was not submitted to the opposition parties: the amendment of the Arab League Charter. I mean, since you are ruling parties we could agree to decide on this charter. If two-thirds of the members in the League's Council agree, the charter can be changed. It does not make sense; this charter dates back to the days of Imam Yahia of Yemen. It is illogical. It dates back to the days of Faruq. Why is it still in force, especially since it says that if there is anything for the sake of more unification and integration, and if two-thirds agree, the charter can be changed? We must decide at this meeting; we must do something; we must decide. Why can we not change this antiquated paper and say to ourselves: Let us change this. Why not change? It is still a paper recognized by all Arab states; if we alter it, we will be able to act safely so that we can begin our action without any legal hitches.

If we can do more than that, so much the better. The main thing is to be able to say that this charter has become more useful. That will be enough so that we get the green light.

There is a project for Arab unity comprising presidents, kings, and princes who will all constitute the Presidential Council. The prime ministers would constitute an Executive Committee or a Federal Executive Council. The foreign ministers would constitute a Foreign Ministers' Council. The industry ministers would constitute an Industry Ministers' Council. All of them would have the constitutional structures and prerogatives as if they are one state, and in turn these...[Al-Qadhdhafi changes thought] Every country will be left as it is. The Jamahiriyyah remains the Jamahiriyyah; the republic remains a republic; the monarchy remains a monarchy, and if there is any change, it will happen from within. The people living in that particular country can change things if they like. We are only interested in the membership of that

country in this federation. After this the worst can happen. If there is no response even to this from the Arab regimes, the reaction of the Arab citizen will be violent. The citizens will say: We have waited and waited; so many formulas have been submitted and so many were rejected. All right. We will also reject you. This will happen, and the first signs have already appeared.

The political framework of this proposed project of Arab unity has an economic content. It provides for food, grain, water, gas, electricity, and scientific research. The addenda appended to it constitute the contents of this political framework. These are ruling parties, in other words they can decide, they cannot just say: We recommend. Then, we can decide here.

Finally, there are current problems; current problems which have obstructed Arab action and created rifts exploited by the enemy and by foreign forces. Naturally, Egypt's recognition of the enemy led to very grave problems in the Arab homeland. The resumption of relations by some Arab countries with the Egyptian regimes led to a condition that is worse than before; it created another split. They were divided between the Egyptian regime, in view of it being traitorous, and the Arabs. Now there is another split, between the Arabs and those Arabs who were outside Stable David. There are two splits now; a split with the Egyptian regime and a split among ourselves after some of us recognized the Egyptian regime. This is one of the bad results of the Amman summit. As long as the situation remains as it is, the results will be like this unless your political forces play a positive role and change this mode.

This is an issue which we have to ponder. What has Egypt offered so that we should recognize it? Egypt has offered losses to the Arab nation. I have argued with African leaders: How do you resume relations with the Zionist enemy? They said this was at Egypt's request. For the sake of the Arabs, Spain and Greece did not recognize the Zionist enemy; now they have. They said that as long as Arabs have recognized it—this is what Spanish Prime Minister Felipe [Gonzales] told me when I had a meeting with him. He was a good young man and could have been on our side. He said: I am on your side, but we are going to resume our relations with Israel. Why? He told me: Because the Arabs, Egypt, have resumed relations. It is a request from Egypt, he told me.

The same applies to Greece. When it was a kingdom, Greece did not resume its relations, and would not have resumed relations in the era of a movement which is regarded as progressive and friendly with the Arabs.

The Africans said that there has been a request from Egypt. They said that someone called Butrus Ghali, the Egyptian foreign minister, came to us every day and asked us to resume relations so that Egypt would not remain isolated. How could Egypt perpetrate this crime on its own? It wanted to involve everyone in this treason.

It has damaged us. We tore down Israeli embassies in the whole of Africa. Africa was cleansed of them. Now everything has been returned. We have lost everything.

The Gulf war is another catastrophe. The Israelis said: Thanks to God, this is the first Arab meeting without the conflict between them and Israel being the top issue. It has become a secondary question. Another enemy or problem has emerged which made the Arabs talk about something else. In Amman they called it the Arab-Israeli dispute. They did not say conflict. Thanks to God, this is good. Look, the Arabs have an enemy other than us, they said. In fact, this war has offered a service to the Egyptian regime, because the countries which shivered in fear of the Iranian revolution needed Egypt and resumed relations with it. We must not do the same; we must not do the same as the Gulf states.

This was a service to the United States. The United States entered the region. The region was offered to it on a golden plate. This led to Arab rifts. It is a problem. For us in Libya it is a revolution. The people who are now involved in the Iranian revolution say: When we were in the shah's prisons we used to listen to your speeches, inciting the Iranian people to revolt, we did not listen to Khomeini's speeches; although Khomeini had a radio station through which he spoke. [Words indistinct] the Iranian people to revolt, destroy the shah and U.S. influence; they responded. How can we fight them? We cannot fight them. However, they are at war with an Arab country.

This is a psychological conflict, a crisis. Is it a revolutionary war or a nationalist war? It is not clear. It could be revolutionary or nationalist. Some day it might emerge that it is colonialist, sectarian, or Persian, for example. On the other hand, the revolutionary side might gain the upper hand and it would then be a revolutionary war. The forces hostile to Zionism, imperialism, and reaction are on one side and the forces which are agents of Zionism and imperialism are on another side, without taking into consideration their ethnic origins—whether they are Persian, Arab, Kurdish, or Negro. It could be like that.

The Western Sahara is a problem. There may be some people who would say that I was the basis of it. In fact, of all the Arabs, I can say that I [word indistinct] the Polisario. When I spoke about the Polisario, countries on the platform knew about Saqia al-Hamra and Rio del Oro, or were even interested in Saqia al-Hamra and Rio del Oro. I said that if Spain did not leave in 1972 we would set up a popular front for the liberation of Saqia al-Hamra and Rio del Oro. I was not concerned [word indistinct] whether it became a state, did not become a state, with Mauritania, with Algeria, with Morocco or with the Canary Islands. The important thing was that the foreigners must leave the Arab homeland.

When Spain realized that the battle meant explosions and real fighting, it quickly withdrew. The Spanish said that they were not prepared to enter into a war against Arabs in the Sahara. Naturally, positions changed later. There is no need to go into details. It is wrong for people to be stormed as though they are a flock of sheep. It is a farce to have a country of 40,000 Arabs fighting each other, or a march of unity in the Arab Maghreb for some piece of land or some issue.

Finally, the outcome would be a referendum. People must (?voice their view) through a referendum. As for the king's army storming them as though they were sheep, this is not acceptable. A referendum is good. We have to pressure and embarrass this side; referendum, referendum, and achieve the conditions—not all the conditions of each side can be achieved in an issue like this. If you say let the Royal Army and administration leave, it will become independent. The Polisario would not need a referendum. If the Royal Army leaves, it would become independent tomorrow. The king will not agree to this. This is not acceptable, not possible. Meanwhile, it is not acceptable for people to take part in a referendum under threat, afraid of seeing the next day, getting killed or being imprisoned if they say no to the king. We have to find a solution. What is this nation which is incapable of finding a solution to an issue like this?

We cannot liberate Palestine. We cannot achieve Arab unity. We cannot solve the question of the Gulf war. We cannot solve the problem of the Sahara. What is this? If matters proceed like this we will meet our end—each one will dig his own grave. By God, it will better for us to meet our collective end—for 150 million people to dig their own graves on the same day and vanish, saying that it is better to be under the ground than above it; we will then be a great nation. History will record that there was a nation which committed suicide when it found out that it was being humiliated and insulted but could not do a thing about it. It committed suicide rather than stay alive.

When the United States is being expelled by the Spanish people we see the King of Morocco inviting it in by saying: Come and have bases in Morocco. How can this be done? Are we working to keep them away from us or are we bringing them into our embrace?

We do not say what we are agreed upon as this does not constitute a problem. We would not have said a thing had we been in agreement. But, as Arabs, we definitely are in disagreement about these issues; these are the causes of our disagreement. However, we should agree to solve them. There are people who want this meeting to be successful and say: These problems are disputed, and therefore how can we discuss them? This is logical. But as long as these problems obstruct our path why do we not raise them and remove them? Why do we not try to do something about them? Disagreement over these issues is evidence of our incapability. Why should this

nation appear before other nations as being incapable? We are not capable of solving any problem. A small problem such as that of the Sahara has shown our inability to solve it. This means that we are incapable. This body—the body of the Arab nation—is suffering from a deficiency of natural immunities—it is suffering from AIDS.

I do not know whether I spoke in detail or briefly. I have forgotten myself. These, generally speaking, are the issues for which we have met in order to determine our destiny in their light, as there is nobody else capable of deciding these issues for us. We alone decide these issues. I wish you success. I pray to Almighty God to make your steps firm and unite your hearts. But we should work as God says: Work and God shall witness your work. God himself expects us to work. Forward, and the struggle continues. [applause]

Proceedings, Speeches Noted

LD111921 Tripoli JANA in English 1800 GMT
11 Jan 88

["Speeches by Delegations Attending the Pan-Arab Congress of Ruling Arab Parties in the Morning Session"—JANA Headline]

[Text] Tripoli, Ayn al-Nar [January] 11, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY—A number of the heads [words indistinct] Arab [words indistinct] ruling [word indistinct] parties made speeches in the morning session yesterday on the items on the agenda.

The heads of the Algerian delegation has hailed the unionist initiative the leader of the revolution which comes at a critical stage through which the nation goes.

Mr. Mouloud Kassim member of the standing secretariat of the Central Committee of the Algerian National Front Party said the principle of the unity is strongly adhered to by the Algerian people.

Arab union, he asserts, is a basic step towards the overall Arab unity.

[Word indistinct] unity is the means to liberate the Arab nation from foreign hegemony, backwardness, poverty and ignorance.

It is the way for progress and civilization, he stresses.

Brother Mouloud Kassim referred to the destructive blows dealt by the colonialists to the Arab countries specially their effort to destroy the Arab Islamic Algerian's identity. He asserted that the Zionist's entity, alien to the [word indistinct] world, is a threat to the whole region as its strategy is linked to the American Administration.

About the Palestinian issue, Brother Mouloud said it is the responsibility of all Arabs, and any shortcomings can not be accepted. He praised the uprising in the occupied land, saying it came to stop the [word indistinct] in the present state of affairs in the Arab countries.

About the Camp David agreement, Brother Kassim said that Algeria's rejecting posture is one of principle, to support (?liberation and reject) colonialism in all forms.

The Zionist entity is a colonial one planted by the imperialists in the region.

These agreements, he asserts, represent a plot to bring about an imbalance of force between the Arab nation and the Zionist enemy.

Because of this imbalance, the Zionist enemy, backed by U.S. imperialism, its agents and some Western countries, have continued its military aggressions against the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples.

Egypt has remained as planned by imperialism and Zionism in a semi-total ostracism engulfed in fatal economic, political and social crises.

He calls for supporting the Egyptian people to bring Egypt back to its natural position in the Arab nation.

Arab forces must be mustered and unified to face up to the schemes of the traitorous accords of David's stable.

Speaking of the Iran-Iraq war, he stresses that the stance of Algeria towards this war stems from its principles to solve the problems arising among brothers through dialogue and open talks without resorting to pressure or arms, apart from non-interference in the internal affairs in addition to adopting a policy of cooperation and complementation alongside taking into consideration the mutual respect and interests.

Algeria has warned against the expansion of this conflict to other Arab and Islamic countries. Such an eventuality, he asserts, provides the chance for foreign troops to intervene thereby threatening world peace and security.

In his turn, brother 'Abdallah Al-Ahmar, the assistant secretary of the Syrian Arab Socialist Ba'th party, asserted that pan Arab unity is a profound necessity, because the present state of affairs is not of the Arab people's choice, it is imposed on them.

In Syria, he said, we regard pan Arab unity as the daily bread of our people, it is a complete and an integrated social, economic and political concept.

Pan Arab unity, he added, is a progressive revolution that can rid the nation of internal and external exploitation, our enemies resist it because it is against their interests and aims of dominating us and syphoning our

resources, he said, adding: "We should never surrender, we should go beyond tribalism and sectarianism and regionalism to build and prepare ourselves for the pan Arab unity."

Regarding the Arab Zionist conflict, the assistant secretary of the Syrian Socialist Arab Ba'th Party, Brother 'Abdallah Al-Ahmar affirmed that the Zionist movement is against the Arab nation, it does not want it on the occupied land and it is intent on destroying and annihilating it, supported by other imperialists headed by the American Administration.

The Egyptian people, Brother Al-Ahmar said, would never accept normal relations with the Zionist enemy despite the Egyptian regime efforts.

If the threat, he added, is a pan Arab threat then our defence should be a pan Arab defence. The attack on the Palestinian Arab people is spreading like cancer and they should be defended, he said.

Brother Al-Ahmar added there should be no talk about an independent Arab state decision, because the pan Arab destiny is inter locked, so the decision should be united.

The Palestinian issue, he said, is the corner stone in the conflict with the Zionist enemy, it should not be relegated to a "liberation movement" issue like any other in Asia and Africa, he said, on the contrary the Palestinian issue is our existence questioned, it is a pan Arab cause, so no side has the right to act alone, he continued.

Mr. 'Abdallah Al-Ahmar, hailing the uprising by the Palestinian in the occupied land, says that the 14 and 15 years old Palestinians there even though they have been born in the shade of occupation have not forgotten that their homeland has been occupied.

He stresses that the armed struggle must be maintained.

The rise of conflicts in Lebanon, the Gulf war, and the Saharan question have been meant to be given the priority so as to marginalize the central cause of the Arabs, namely, the Palestinian question.

He condemns the agreement of David's stable which have brought about many political defeats in several countries worldwide which had not recognized the Zionist enemy.

He asks, "What can we get from the international conference propagated nowadays?" He points out that Palestine will remain Arab.

We are for peace, but we are against the U.S.-Zionist schemes which are capitulationist.

He stresses that it is imperative to stop the Iraq-Iran war which only benefits the enemies.

He also stresses the importance of dialogue and meetings to discuss matters pertaining to the Arab nation.

Dr. Ahmad al-Asbahi, sec. gen. of the standing Committee of the General People's Congress [name and title as received], has expressed in his speech his appreciation of the initiative of the leader of the revolution to call for this meeting adding that it comes within the purview of the unionist efforts of the leader of the revolution to unify the Arab nation.

He asserts that the delegations have held an open meeting to discuss the challenges of destiny.

He asserts that the creation of any formula aiming at economic complementation and independence apart from mobilizing the potentials is referred to by the national charter of his country. So is what is represented by the proposal of Arab union for this initiative made by the leader of the revolution.

This union represents an ideal formula on the road of Arab unity.

He points out the efforts exerted to unify the two parts of Yemen and the endeavour of the leader of the revolution in this regard.

He calls for the armed struggle to face up to the Zionist enemy.

He also calls for halting the Iraq-Iran war which only serves the objectives of the enemies of the Arabs and the Muslims.

Brother Mohamed Ali al-Triki, the Politburo member of the Tunisian Constitutional Socialist Party, conveyed to the delegates the good wishes of President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali for a successful congress.

He saluted the people's uprising of the Palestinian Arab people against the Zionist enemy in the occupied land, calling upon the Arab people to support the uprising.

Brother al-Triki referred to the recent Arab opposition parties' conference held in Tripoli, saying that their contributions should not be ignored, because we believe that the best form of rule in our countries today is the popular democracy which will give every individual the chance to air his views and to contribute in formulating the decisions.

We gather today, he said, as ruling parties and that is a responsibility because it puts us in front of challenges and situations to be changed.

Other contradicting nations, have agreed despite their differences. We, with all the common grounds we share, are in a better position to achieve a better future for our people, he added.

Mr. al-Mirghani al-Nasri, member of Sudan's Supreme Council, stresses in his speech that (?Great) Jamahiriyyah is the land of struggle free people and haven of strugglers everywhere.

We highly appreciate its stand during the hard times and the opposition days.

We alongside the Ummah Party used to lead the nation in the Sudan. We made an armed opposition and Libya helped us [passage indistinct] of its desire to help and to achieve freedom, not to impose conditions on free people. We will not forget this supportive stand.

He adds that the Zionist enemy has benefited from the differences arising among Arab brothers.

When the Palestinian people living under the Zionist yoke of occupation has found that we have let it down, it has resorted to stones to wage its revolution.

He points out that they in the Sudan believe that Libya under the leadership of Mu'ammarr al-Qadhafi has been able to present an advance example of leadership for the Arab nation. It has called us to get together on its soil. We are here not only to hold a meeting, but to close ranks.

He says that the book on the secret wars of the CIA represents a hard evidence that Libya is a free country and the land of free people. In this book a comprehensive plan is shown aiming at destroying Libya, its historic leaderships and the leader of the revolution Mu'ammarr al-Qadhafi.

Libya is today an example of a free country possessing its will being the homeland of all free people.

We want every Arab country to be like this: liberated from pressures and dependency possessing its will and mobilizing its potentials for the Arab people.

Brother Abdullah Awad Hidar [name as received], deputy head of the national Assembly in Djibouti, conveyed to the leader of the revolution that greetings of Djiboutian Arab people, saying it for the better that such a congress be held in the land of the endless struggle. [sentence as received]

As we bid good bye to last year and receive the new year we witness pleasant signs in the measures and the genuine steps leading to the unification of the grand Arab Maghreb, he said.

Brother Hidar praised the leading role of the Jamahiriyyah and its endeavours to fulfill the pan (?Arab) goals.

Praising also the experiments of the people's congresses in the Great Jamahiriyyah, Brother Hidar asserted the need to remove false barriers and to allow popular

experiments through to other parts of the pan Arab countries, the Arab people's dialogue is a necessity especially now the Arab Zionist conflict is threatening the whole area.

Brother Al-Mahdi Sa'id, the Central Committee member of the Yemenese Socialist Party, expressed his appreciation for the kind and positive initiation of the leader that made the congress possible, saying that the gathering will help exchanging views and finding the best methods to achieve pan Arab goals.

About the unity of the two Yemens, Brother Sa'id asserted that genuine efforts are made to make it possible, it will constitute a moral support and an incentive for the Arab people to fulfill the total pan Arab unity, he added.

Regarding the Palestinian cause, Brother al-Mahdi Sa'id affirmed that there is a conspiracy by the imperialists, the Zionists and their agents to destroy the Palestinian cause. He praised the uprising in occupied Palestine calling upon Arab people to support it, as well as standing by Syria in its confrontation to the Zionist enemy.

As to the Gulf war, he continued, it does not serve but the imperialists and Zionists purposes.

He concluded that the military presence of imperialists fleets in the region is a threat, calling for their quick withdrawal.

A member of the Sudanese delegation, in his speech, has thanked Great al-Jamahiriyyah for the initiative of holding this meeting.

He also commends the uprising continuing unabated in occupied Palestine.

He calls for stopping the Iraq-Iran war which has become one of attrition depleting the Arab and Islamic potentials. It is a mistake, he asserts.

He stresses the importance of the Arab union proposal the necessity of achieving it as a step towards the overall Arab unity.

The head of the Mauritanian delegation has stressed that the Arab unity has become more urgent than ever.

He adds that we have to do our utmost to achieve this noble objective, encouraging transitional achievements as a step towards it.

Meanwhile, Mr. Tawfiq Salha, member of the Syrian delegation, has stressed on the necessity of having the parties attending this meeting take a clear stance vis-a-vis the capitulationist regime of David's stable.

He condemns the Arab regimes which have made every endeavour to join this regime stressing that this represents an implicit recognition of the Zionist enemy thereby opening the way for several other countries which used to support the Arab right to recognize the Zionist enemy.

Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Jallud, commenting on the speeches of the heads of delegations on the items on the agenda, points out that this meeting will contribute in the unity of analysis and the building of trust thereby bringing about a joint Arab action.

He also points out that the total comments of the above heads of delegation focuss on the manner of achieving Arab unity and the Palestinian cause.

He adds that we should make all the attempts conducive to achieving the overall Arab unity focussing on the Arab union which guarantees the economic and defence unity thereby drawing up the basic lines for the basic causes.

He stresses on the importance of confronting the U.S. scheme against the Arab nation and concentrate the discussion on the two basic questions: The overall Arab unity and the Palestinian Arab cause.

Arab League Foreign Ministers To Meet 24 Jan
LD121702 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic
1600 GMT 12 Jan 88

[Text] The TAP agency has quoted an Arab diplomatic source in Tunis as saying that the Arab League Council will hold an emergency session at the foreign ministers level on 24 January in the Tunisian capital to discuss the explosive situation in the occupied Arab territories in light of the popular uprising in these territories against the Israeli occupation authorities.

This emergency session, which is being held at the request of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyyah, will examine ways of consolidating the steadfastness of the Palestinian people in confronting Israeli repression. The session will also make plans for urgent Arab action to oppose the terrorist practices against the Palestinian inhabitants and work toward ensuring their protection.

Islamic Affairs

Seminar Urges Islamic Control of Holy Mosques
LD101233 Tehran IRNA in English 1005 GMT
10 Jan 88

[Text] London, Jan. 10, IRNA—A world commission of ulema (religious leaders) is required to exercise control over the Haramain, Mecca and Medina, an international seminar on hajj has resolved.

"Political and administrative control over the Haramain will eventually be exercised by an Islamic state that emerges there in due course," the conference's resolution said Saturday.

In the meantime, it urged a world commission of "pious ulema should be created with a permanent secretariat to oversee the affairs of the Haramain and hajj."

The seminar said "Imam Khomeyni represents the fact of the application of true fundamental Islam" and condemned the views expressed by some of the "court ulema" and advised them to fear Allah and not sell themselves to this world at such a small price.

Some 400 participants, including many ulema, Muslim intellectuals and activists, took part in the 4-day world seminar which started in London on Wednesday. The participants represented 40 Muslim states and all schools of Islam, but with a majority of Sunnis.

It further urged Muslims all over the world to make the day of the Mecca massacre as the "day to declare Bara'at (severance of relations) from the Mushrikun (polytheists) every year."

Hundreds of pilgrims, mainly Iranians, were martyred by Saudi troops in the unprecedented massacre in Mecca during hajj on 31 July and led to widespread condemnation of the Saudi regime and concern about its future administration of the Haramain.

The seminar condemned the "horrendous crimes committed by the Saudi regime and clarifies that it is collaborating with and geared to the needs of the U.S. campaign against the Islamic Republic of Iran."

"Hajj is a pillar of Islam and Allah has enjoyed every able Muslim to perform it," the resolution said. "It is not permissible for a ruler to stop the guests of Allah from performing this obligation."

The participants unanimously agreed that the naming of "Saudi Arabia" after the ruling dynasty was against Islam and was unlawful because it was called the "Arabian Peninsula" by the holy prophet (PBUH).

"The seminar reiterates the view widely-held in the ummah that the Haramain are shared heritage and legal right of all Muslims as a sacred place to observe hajj ritual and benefits in security and peace," it said and "cannot form part of a modern state whether nationalist, dynastic, racist, dictatorial or democratic."

From the trusteeship of the Europeans their protection moved onto the Americans and it said that in return the Saudi rule had become "an extended U.S. arm in the heart of the Muslim world."

Support was also expressed for the "line of Islamic Jihad all over the world," especially in Palestine, Lebanon and Afghanistan because "jihad has the highest value in Islam."

Islamic World Conference Head on Moscow Talks
PM061641 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT
in Arabic 5 Jan 88 p 3

[Interview with Islamic World Conference Chairman Dr Muhammad Ma'ruf al-Dawalibi by Hasin al-Bunyan in Riyadh; date not given]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] [Al-Bunyan] Could you talk to us about your meetings with Soviet officials and your visit to both the Kremlin and the Soviet Foreign Ministry?

[Al-Dawalibi] In October 1986 I received an invitation to attend the Islam and Peace Conference held in Baku. The conference coincided with another invitation I had received to visit China. So I had to send my apologies. However, I met with the Soviet ambassador in Islamabad and asked him to convey a message to the conference in which I promoted the spirit of the conference "Islam and Peace" by calling on leader Gorbachev to urge the withdrawal of Soviet forces from Afghanistan.

The Soviet Religious Affairs Ministry and the Mufti of Tashkent Dr Shamsoddin Tabkhunev [name as published] renewed the invitation for me to visit Moscow. This invitation was not to do with attending a conference. My relationship with the Soviets is old. It goes back to the time of Stalin and Khrushchev, when I was a Syrian official until 1964.

When I arrived in Moscow I sent a cable to Gorbachev. It was that cable which opened the Kremlin's doors to me. I met with the highest authority there and at the Foreign Ministry. I met with Supreme Soviet Presidium First Deputy Chairman Demichev and Soviet First Deputy Foreign Minister Yuliy Vorontsov. It was the first time that a statement was issued about talks between the Soviet Union and a popular but nongovernmental organization. [passage omitted]

[Al-Bunyan] How was the atmosphere during the talks between you and the Soviets?

[Al-Dawalibi] The discussions were characterized by both frankness and amity. They opened their hearts to us. We realized that they were eager to begin a new era, especially after Gorbachev's book was published. We discussed a number of issues: withdrawal from Afghanistan, the Iraq-Iran war, the situation in the Gulf, and foreign fleets' interference in Gulf waters, as well as the Arab-Israeli situation and the new world system.

Regarding the Soviet withdrawal from Afghanistan, I sensed from their frankness that it is in their interests to withdraw. But they believe that a withdrawal would

leave a gap, since they have supporters and followers there. The latter may be few, but they are anxious to stay because they are worried about their supporters in view of the ill will produced by war, killings, and homelessness.

The Soviets are seeking to achieve an accord between the fighters, who are a majority, and the mujahidin, who are a minority. During our talks we propose solutions which we hope they will apply in the near future. The unity of the Afghan people concerns us. We want negotiations to be held with the representatives of the Afghan people, primarily the mujahidin. Measures should also be taken to eliminate the accumulated burden and effects of the internal war. [passage omitted]

As for their position on the Iraq-Iran war, the Soviets maintain cordial relations with the two parties to the conflict. We should not forget that the Iranian regime was responsive to the Soviets when it prevented the infiltration of the Afghan mujahidin from Iranian Baluchistan to Pakistani Baluchistan, where as in the past they facilitated the Afghan mujahidin's passage. Iran has now closed its borders to prevent the infiltration of the mujahidin, thus gaining Soviet sympathy. Moscow also maintains cordial relations with the Iraqis, who import most of their weapons from the Soviet Union. We proposed a number of solutions in order to enable the Soviets to benefit from their friendly relations with both parties to the conflict.

On the new world system, I told the Soviet leaders that it is Islam alone which can participate in such a system, since Islam is based on the idea of peace and does not discriminate between one people and another. [passage omitted]

[Al-Bunyan] How do you view your talks with the Soviets?

[Al-Dawalibi] I would not deny that I was satisfied with the way they both listened and talked to us. We discussed points that would serve world peace. The Soviets, who have the power and the state, were no less eager than I, especially regarding their desire to withdraw from Afghanistan and secure a solution. They made me feel that they have changed the policy they pursued in the past. [passage omitted]

[Al-Bunyan] Was there understanding on their part on what they heard from you?

[Al-Dawalibi] Although our talks were lengthy, the ideas the Soviets heard about the Islamic religion were neither new nor different from those they had already heard. Despite their busy schedule they gave us enough time to continue our discussions. When we concluded our talks in the Kremlin, they decided to continue our talks at the Foreign Ministry.

All this made us feel that they were satisfied with our discussions. [passage omitted]

Palestinian Affairs

Al-Quds Radio Reports 'Uprising' Activities

Demonstrations Noted

JN121249 [Editorial Report] (Clandestine) Al-Quds Palestinian Arab Radio in Arabic at 1152 GMT on 12 January carries the following reports on the uprising:

"Our brothers, we have received the following: Zionist enemy forces are presently suppressing our kinfolk who have been staging sweeping demonstrations since this morning in Al-Jalazun camp. Our kinfolk clashed with the enemy forces, which are using tracked vehicles and firing rubber and real bullets and tear gas bombs. A curfew was imposed on our kinfolk in Al-Jalazun. However, the clashes are continuing."

At 1200 GMT, the radio carries this report: "Brothers, we have just received the following: 'Askar camp is witnessing tumultuous demonstrations against the Zionist occupation forces. The enemy resorted to surrounding these demonstrations for fear they might extend outside the camp's precincts."

At 1202 GMT, the radio carries the following report: "Brothers, we have just received the following: Tumultuous demonstrations are currently taking place in Sa'ir village, Hebron District. Zionist army units have moved a short while ago to suppress this demonstration."

At 1205 GMT, the radio carries this report: "Brothers, we have just received the following: Zionist enemy authorities a short while ago prevented Goulding, the representative of the United Nations secretary general, from entering Jabalyah camp."

At 1207 GMT, the radio carries this report: "Brothers, we have just received the following: The Old Quarter of Jerusalem has been witnessing tumultuous demonstrations since this morning. The demonstrations are still continuing as this report is being broadcast. We have just been told that several casualties occurred within enemy ranks."

The radio, whose morning experimental transmission usually ends at 1200 GMT, extended this transmission today with an announcement at 1227 GMT as follows:

"Brother listeners, due to the exacerbation of the situation in occupied Palestine and in view of our struggler Palestinian Arab masses' intense confrontation of the Zionist tool of repression, we will continue our transmission today without interruption. We are together along the path of liberating land and man."

Gaza Phone Lines Cut

JN121406 (Clandestine) Al-Quds Palestinian Arab Radio
in Arabic 1309 GMT 12 Jan 88

[Text] Al-Quds, the Palestinian Arab radio on the path of liberating the land and man. Brother strugglers, we have just received the following: In an attempt to black out developments in the struggling Gaza Strip, the Zionist occupation authorities have cut off telephone lines and cables in most of the areas there.

Villagers Clash With Israelis

JN121355 (Clandestine) Al-Quds Palestinian Arab Radio
in Arabic 1336 GMT 12 Jan 88

[Text] Al-Quds, the Palestinian Arab radio on the path of liberating the land and man. Brother listeners, we have now received the following: Since early morning our occupied homeland has been the scene of angry demonstrations in all areas and continued disturbances in response to the call of the nationalist forces for a 3-day strike as of yesterday, Monday.

At this very moment, while this report is being broadcast, the inhabitants of the village of 'Ayn Yabrud near Ramallah are demonstrating against and clashing with the forces of the Zionist enemy. For the first time the Zionist enemy has used helicopters to control the angry masses and is firing new tear gas shells from them. However, our people continue their uprising.

Tanks Force Open Closed Shops

JN121400 (Clandestine) Al-Quds Palestinian Arab Radio
in Arabic 1344 GMT 12 Jan 88

[Text] Al-Quds, the Palestinian Arab radio on the path of liberating the land and man. Brother strugglers, we have now received the following: At this moment Zionist tanks are breaking down the closed doors of stores on 'Umar al-Mukhtar Street in the Gaza Strip in an attempt to prevent the strike from encompassing the city. The doors of the following stores have been broken: 'Ashur stores, Saqullah stores, Zayn al-Din stores, Al-Falujah stores, and others.

More Demonstrations Urged

JN131259 (Clandestine) Al-Quds Palestinian Arab Radio
in Arabic at 1157 GMT 13 Jan

[Text] Sons of our people in the besieged camps: Reorganize your ranks through local committees to report any shortages and ensure supplies from neighboring areas. Sons of our people in the West Bank and our Jerusalem. Never give the enemy time to rest. Rush to the support of nearby demonstrations. Form new demonstrations

everywhere. Let the Zionist generals say that the whole of the occupied territory is under siege. The Zionist enemy is only besieging itself and declaring its bankruptcy to the world.

As for you, you will announce your victory very soon, thanks to your confrontation and steadfastness, not thanks to diplomatic maneuvers. Our people in the whole of Palestine—towns and villages—you have a major duty today. Demonstrate in Jerusalem, Tel Aviv, 'Akko, Haifa, Yafo, Lod, and Ramla. Provide support for your brothers in neighboring areas.

Force 17 Commander on Chemical Weapons
NC131107 Nicosia CYPRUS MAIL in English
13 Jan 87 p 1

[Text] The commander of the Force 17 of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), Colonel Abu al-Tayyib [Mahmud al-Natur] has revealed that his force had acquired chemical weapons which would be used against Israel whenever it was necessary. Already many Palestinian experts have been trained on this type of weapons in friendly countries, he said.

The disclosure was made this week by the Force 17 commander in an exclusive interview with the Arabic speaking weekly newspaper "Al-Nasr" (The Victory) which is published in Cyprus on an off-shore basis.

"The chemical weapons are necessary for the war we are waging and we won't hesitate to use them in future battles in the appropriate way and time against military installations of our enemy in the occupied territories," he said.

Colonel al-Tayyib said the political and military developments showed that in a future Arab-Israeli war, the chemical weapons would play an important role since

Israel could not resort to the atomic bomb, except in the case that its very existence would be in real danger. He said Israel has also nuclear weapons and called on all Arabs to be equipped with both nuclear and conventional weapons to face Israel. He estimated that Israel would have now between 11 to 44 atomic bombs each of which needed 5 to 8 kilos of plutonium, which Israel could produce.

Israel accused Force 17 of being responsible for the murder of three Israeli nationals at Larnaca Marina in September 1985 by two Palestinians and a Briton, who are serving life sentences in Nicosia prisons. Colonel al-Tayyib refused responsibility for the killings. In reprisal Israeli war planes attacked the PLO headquarters in Tunis.

Meanwhile, another Arabic publication issued in Cyprus on an offshore basis, the weekly magazine "Al-Mawqif al-'Arabi" said this week that Israel has 5,000 tons of LSD, which causes paralysis of the human nervous system and "unknown quantities" of the deadly gas F7 and G.

The magazine also said that Israel has 100-200 nuclear war heads with all the necessary equipment to launch them, like bombers and US-made surface-to-surface missiles.

It quoted a report of the Israeli Centre of Strategic Studies (GAFY) of the University of Tel Aviv, parts of which were published in the Israeli press on September 8, 1987, as saying that "the main" Arab countries are very advanced in the field of chemical weapons and they have or they can acquire such weapons. The GAFY report said "the Arab superiority in the field of chemical weapons is the answer to the superiority of Israel in the nuclear weapons," the magazine added.

Algeria

Delors Speaks to Press Before Departure

LD102207 Algiers Domestic Service in French
1800 GMT 10 Jan 88

[Excerpt] [Announcer] Jacques Delors, president of the ECC, talked about building the Great Maghreb this morning in a news conference before his departure from Algiers. Let us now listen to him:

[Begin Delors recording] We cannot remain indifferent in the face of the patient efforts being made by the president of the Algerian Republic to unify the Maghreb. We follow these efforts with interest. We try to support them discreetly, and, in any case, we share this same concept of the future world. We are living in a world that is increasingly interdependent, which means that we feel everything that happens in the world, where we can be neither selfish nor indifferent. This interdependence on the economic level poses formidable problems. It is, perhaps, a destabilizing factor. We can see this clearly at the moment, with the follow-up to events on the stock exchange, or the monetary disorder we are experiencing. I have read, I have seen, in President Chadli's speeches, this idea, according to which the new world that is emerging can only be achieved like a kind of game of patience supported by regional groups. [end recording]

[Announcer] Mr Delors also talked about relations between Algeria and the EEC.

[Begin Delors recording] A framework exists for cooperation between [words indistinct] and the Community. It must be (?filled) in the best possible conditions and to the satisfaction of the two sides. In the second place [as heard], we must initiate a reflection as part of the prospects for the future, which is linked to the changes the world economy is experiencing, to the building of Europe, and to the new stream of development in Algeria, which we want to help, as we appreciate greatly the efforts made by Algeria, even before the drop in oil prices and the dollar. Its orientations were set at the beginning of the 1980's to maintaining the main principles of development. However, it adapted them in a realistic and efficient way to new facts, the constraints that hamper Algeria, as they do all economic policies. [end recording]

[Announcer] [Name indistinct] asked the president of the ECCommission about the state of negotiations with Morocco on the fishing agreement.

[Begin Delors recording] Both sides have given themselves a period for thought, but if we pick up the situation as it was 5 or 6 weeks ago, great progress has been achieved and it seems to me that the agreement is close at hand. However, it is normal for one of the concerned parties to take time to think and I have high

hopes. This also is part of our general concept of a rapprochement with all the countries around the Mediterranean. [end recording] [passage omitted]

Ibrahimi Receives Czechoslovakia's Klusak

LD111411 Algiers APS in Arabic 0800 GMT
11 Jan 88

[Text] Algiers, 14 Jan (APS)—Dr Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi, member of the [FLN] Political Bureau and foreign minister, yesterday received Milan Klusak, member of the Czechoslovak Communist Party Central Committee and Czech minister of culture, who was accompanied by Deputy Foreign Minister Roman Narozny, and by the CSSR ambassador in Algiers.

During the meeting, the two sides reviewed the prospects for improving the many-sided cooperation between Algeria and Czechoslovakia, and exchanged views on political issues of common interest, particularly developments in the resistance of the Palestinian people in the occupied territories.

FLN's Bouhara Meets Zhu Liang, CPC Delegation

LD111424 Algiers APS in English 1200 GMT
11 Jan 88

[Text] Algiers, 11 Jan (APS)—Political talks were held at the party headquarters this morning between a delegation from the FLN party, led by Mr. Abderrazek Bouhara, member of the party Central Committee Permanent Secretariat in charge of foreign relations, and a delegation from the Communist Party of China led by Zhu Liang, director of its International Liaison Department.

During this meeting, the Chinese delegation reported on the outcome of the CPC 13th Congress, and pointed out in particular the current economic reforms in China. The delegation also exchanged viewpoints on regional and international political matters, particularly the Saharan problem and the efforts being exerted to achieve the unity of the Arab Maghreb, as well as the Palestinian cause.

Egypt

Ghali Discusses Ties With Gulf States, Israel

PM121350 Paris LE QUOTIDIEN DE PARIS in French
9-10 Jan 88 p 13

[Interview with Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, by Dominique Lagarde—date and place not given]

[Text] LE QUOTIDIEN: President Husni Mubarak will very shortly start a Gulf tour. This is taking place immediately after the resumption of diplomatic relations between Egypt and the Gulf states. How do you explain this "return" by Egypt? Do you share the view

that because the Gulf states feel that their security is under threat, they want to strengthen their alliance with the Arab world's leading military power?

Butrus Ghali: There is certainly some truth in this analysis, but relations have in fact always existed between these states and Egypt. What is new is that they are now official. For almost 2 years, those countries tried to restore official relations with us. They needed a pretext, and the pretext was the Amman summit.

LE QUOTIDIEN: A strengthening of military cooperation between Egypt and the Gulf states seems to be on the agenda. A Kuwaiti newspaper has even spoken of officers and soldiers being sent after first resigning from the Egyptian Army....

Butrus Ghali: We have no intention of acting as mercenaries in the Gulf, and President Mubarak has denied that he intends to send troops.

LE QUOTIDIEN: Even if the security of one of those countries was directly and seriously threatened?

Butrus Ghali: I cannot answer for the future. For the time being, the aim is to strengthen the joint Arab front and to ensure that the Arab states adopt a united position on our three major problems, namely the Iraq-Iran war, Palestine, and Lebanon.

LE QUOTIDIEN: However, the Gulf countries seem to be using their alliance with Egypt as a means of deterring Iran....

Butrus Ghali: Yes, but it is primarily diplomatic and political deterrence.

LE QUOTIDIEN: Do you think that Egypt will soon be able to rejoin the Arab League? Does this depend on you first restoring diplomatic relations with all of that organization's member states?

Butrus Ghali: The two problems are different. For instance, there are states in the United Nations which do not have diplomatic relations with each other, and the same could be true in the Arab League. However, our return to the Arab League presents two problems: the problem of our relations with some countries which are opposed to our return—like Syria and Libya, and the problem of the League's headquarters that, under the terms of the Arab League's constituent treaty which has never been changed, must be in Cairo.

LE QUOTIDIEN: Could the current events in the Israeli-occupied territories cast doubt on relations between Egypt and Israel?

Butrus Ghali: We think that we must maintain existing channels which enable us to have some contact, in the Palestinians' own interests. However, we have expressed our disapproval and have made approaches to other

states, notably Western states, asking them to react. In particular, we had contacts with the United States to persuade it to refrain from using its veto during the vote on the Security Council resolution on 22 December.

LE QUOTIDIEN: What can President Mubarak do? Will he make new proposals during his forthcoming visit to the United States and Europe?

Butrus Ghali: We want to alert international public opinion to a situation that is a threat to peace. We must say that the time has come to take action through an international conference or even through preparations for an international conference, despite the fact that 1988 is an election year in the United States and Israel. We must start taking action, because events on the West Bank are an expression of the Palestinians' despair. This is because they realize that the proposed international conference has become a secondary issue for the international community.

LE QUOTIDIEN: Is Egypt's decision not to break off relations with Israel, despite the events of the past few weeks, likely to cause internal problems? There have been demonstrations by students and lawyers in Cairo....

Butrus Ghali: This should be seen as an expression of solidarity and indignation. However, this indignation stems partly from Europe's excessively timid reaction. And yet, Europe has experienced occupation.

LE QUOTIDIEN: Is it not primarily a reaction to the attitude of the Egyptian authorities, which the demonstrators regard as too timid?

Butrus Ghali: Yes, of course. The international community must realize that the current escalation can only benefit the fundamentalist faction in the Arab world and all those who are opposed to dialogue with Israel.

LE QUOTIDIEN: Some PLO leaders, including Yasir 'Arafat, recently discussed the creation of a Palestinian government-in-exile. Do you think this could facilitate negotiations?

Butrus Ghali: I honestly do not know. It is up to the Palestinians to decide. We do not think there can be any peace negotiations without participation by the Palestinians, in other words the PLO.

Criticizes European Timidity

PM121116 Paris LE MONDE in French
10-11 Jan 88 p 3

["J.-P.L." report: "Butrus Ghali Deplores Europe's 'Indifference'"]

[Text] "Why is Europe, and France in particular, so timid?" On a stopover in Paris on Friday 8 January, Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, expressed surprise at the Old Continent's "indifference"

to the violent events on the West Bank and in Gaza. He talked nostalgically about the days of the "Venice Declaration" (June 1980) in which Europe took a bolder line.

Mr Butrus Ghali thinks there is no doubt that the Twelve "underestimate their power and their strength." They could, if they wished, preach reason to the Israelis and express their anxiety to the Americans more clearly. "You ought to tell the Israeli leaders that they are adopting a suicidal attitude, and that they face a total fiasco. The advocates of dialogue in Israel must be strengthened. Your refusal to intervene is an indirect encouragement to the extremists in the two camps."

Mr Butrus Ghali thinks there are several reasons for Europe's low profile: the current predominance of disarmament problems with which the West is "obsessed," the weariness caused by a long-standing conflict, and the Arab world's internal conflicts, aggravated by the Gulf war. Cairo pays particular attention to the situation in the occupied territories, Butrus Ghali admitted, because Israel's intransigence is grist for the mill of Egyptian fundamentalists. "We told you, the Islamic fundamentalists repeatedly say, that Israel only responds to the balance of forces and only deserves one response: holy war. This is an idea which mobilizes support from Tehran to Egypt's remotest villages."

How can radicalism be contained and the moderates strengthened? By maintaining hope. "Of course," the Egyptian minister admitted, "no initiative will be decisive in 1988 because of the paralyzing effect of the elections in the United States and Israel, but we still must continue to work toward negotiations." In Alexandria in September 1986, Mr Mubarak and Mr Peres revived the idea of an international conference and declared "1987, the year of peace." Who remembers that?

***Arafat Contacts Mubarak on Israeli Aggression**
NC091321 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic
1230 GMT 9 Jan 88

[Text] PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat sent an urgent message to President Husni Mubarak this morning on Israel's storming of Palestinian camps in the Gaza Strip and its continued acts of aggression against Palestinians in the occupied Arab territories. In his message, 'Arafat urged President Husni Mubarak to work to halt Israel's aggression against the Palestinian citizens.

PNC member Sa'id Kamal has conveyed the message to Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister.

Al-Farwani, PLO Envoy Discuss Protests
NC131601 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1444 GMT
13 Jan 88

[Text] Cairo, 13 Jan (MENA)—Ambassador Taha al-Farwani, director of the Foreign Ministry's Palestine Department, met with PLO Representative in Cairo

Zuhdi al-Qidrah today. They reviewed the situation in the occupied territories, Israel's insistence on escalating its repressive acts and inhuman practices against Palestinian citizens, and Israel's intransigence in insisting on the deportation of nine Palestinians for their alleged responsibility for the Palestinian revolution's uprising in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

***All-Out Strike Urged in Occupied Territories**
NC120855 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0620 GMT
12 Jan 88

[Text] Cairo, 12 Jan (MENA)—Today's AL-AHRAM hails the popular Palestinian uprising in the occupied Arab territories and calls on the media to focus as much light as possible on it. It adds that street riots during which demonstrators stone Israeli patrols, burn tires, and set up roadblocks to show their presence are only one aspect of the resistance and not the whole uprising. One can only admire the courage of those who find nothing to fight with except these primitive means against the most potent weapons.

The paper goes on to say that another aspect of the uprising is the various forms the civil disobedience campaign has taken. The most important form of this campaign is the general strike in all the occupied territories, which will undoubtedly attract the attention of world public opinion more than the interspersed clashes. AL-AHRAM calls on the international media to pay attention to this aspect of the uprising.

The paper's editorial says that the general strike will have a great impact on the Israeli economy, which depends on Palestinian manpower in many of its sectors. It calls on the Palestinians to make the strike an all-out one so that its effects will be deeper and more painful. It adds: More than 50,000 Palestinian workers have taken part in this strike, which began last Thursday and involves the West Bank, Ramallah, Bethlehem, and East Jerusalem. The Israeli economic effort lost from this it is a real blow because the jobs undertaken by these Palestinians, though menial ones, are necessary for the Israeli economy. The Palestinian workers' wages are lower than those of the Israeli workers, and the Israeli Government deducts part of their wages for social services which they never receive in return.

AL-AHRAM ridicules Israel's threats that it will fire the Palestinian workers if the general strike is carried out and replace them with foreign ones. It says that it is a false warning meant only to cover up the really critical situation facing the Israeli economy. In conclusion, the paper calls for carrying the ways and means of the effective resistance so that it can sap the occupation and maintain control of the situation.

Interior Ministry on 'Ayn Shams Student 'Riot'
NC122246 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2234 GMT
12 Jan 88

[Text] Cairo, 12 Jan (MENA)—An official source at the Interior Ministry has stated that a number of students from 'Ayn Shams University took to the streets near the

university this morning and placed stones on the roads to obstruct traffic. Security forces dealt with them and dispersed them. Traffic returned to normal immediately. In a statement to MENA, the source said there were no deaths or casualties among the students. He said 10 ringleaders of the riot were detained and referred to the public prosecution for interrogation.

Several Protesters Taken Away

NC121933 Paris AFP in English 1922 GMT
12 Jan 88

[Text] Cairo, Jan 12 (AFP)—Clashes broke out between students and police at 'Ayn Shams University here Tuesday during protests against the detention last week of students staging pro-Palestinian demonstrations, witnesses said.

They said anti-riot units, using electrified prods, and plainclothes policemen swarmed onto the campus in northeastern Cairo to quell the demonstration.

Several protestors were taken away by the police, witnesses added.

Violent protests have erupted on four occasions at 'Ayn Shams over the last 10 days, with police making several arrests. Fifty-seven students, including three women, were later released.

Iranian 'Anti-State' Activities Investigated

NC080706 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0635 GMT
8 Jan 88

[Text] Cairo, 8 Jan (MENA)—The Higher State Security Prosecution Office is currently investigating a case which links Iran with anti-state activities in Egypt. The investigation has revealed that Iran is still engaged in efforts to export the Iranian revolution to the region.

According to today's edition of AL-AHRAM, Egyptian security services have lately arrested an Iranian intelligence agent who was attempting to recruit Egyptians and set up an organization to achieve this aim. The scheme was directed from abroad by former Iranian Charge d'Affaires Mahmud Mohtadi. Mohtadi was expelled from Egypt last May for engaging in activities incompatible with his diplomatic status.

Mubarak To Visit Morocco in February

NC121521 Cairo MENA in English 1442 GMT
12 Jan 88

[Text] Doha, Jan 12 (MENA)—Egyptian President Husni Mubarak will pay a visit to Morocco early next month (February) within his tour that will comprise West Germany, the United Kingdom, the United States, France and Italy.

An official source told MENA that the visit comes at the invitation of King Hassan II of Morocco for consultations on different issues of interest to the Arab nation with the international peace conference and the Iraq-Iran war to the fore.

MENA learnt that President Mubarak will spend some days in Morocco during which he will hold talks with the Moroccan monarch on coordination of Arab efforts.

Mubarak will start his European tour on 15th January with a visit to West Germany for talks with Chancellor Helmut Kohl to be followed by a visit to Britain.

The United States will be the third country visited by Mubarak where he will stay for five days, following which he will fly to France for a two-day visit within efforts to intensify European endeavours for holding the international peace conference and for halting the Gulf war between Iraq and Iran.

From France, Mubarak will proceed to Morocco where he will stay for three days following which he will fly to Italy for a one day visit before returning to Cairo.

Ghali On Bilateral Relations

LD081422 Rabat MAP in English 1220 GMT
8 Jan 88

[Text] Cairo, Jan 8 (MAP)—The expected meeting between Egyptian President Husni Mubarak and King Hassan II of Morocco will be "a propitious occasion to upgrade coordination between Morocco and Egypt at the Arab, Islamic and African levels". Egyptian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali has said.

Egyptian official milieus in Cairo recently announced that King Hassan II extended an invitation to President Husni Mubarak to visit Morocco and that the president had accepted the invitation.

In an interview with the Moroccan news agency "MAP", Ghali said the resumption of diplomatic relations between Morocco and Egypt at the level of ambassadors last November pursuant to the Amman summit "will enable the two sides to play an efficient role on the Arab arena, at the level of the Non-Aligned Movement, French speaking countries and the French-African summit whose upcoming session will be held in Morocco by the end of the current year."

Referring to economic cooperation prospects between the two countries, Ghali said opportunities in this respect are numerous and would widely surpass the current level estimated at 40 million dollars. The holding soon of meetings by the trade joint commission and the ministerial joint commission for economic cooperation will undoubtedly lead to the drawing up of global framework to identify practical measures of cooperation in different fields, he added.

The Egyptian minister of state also laid emphasis on the necessity to endeavor for the setting up of a Moroccan-Egyptian trade chamber and the reactivation of the accord on tourism signed by the two countries.

On the political situation in the Arab world and the latest tour by Mubarak in Gulf countries, Ghali said current circumstances compel Arab countries to undertake common action to make up for the time lost because of differences and hence to avert the dangers and take up the challenges they encounter.

Ethiopian Contacts Intensify Over Sudanese Ties

NC121541 Cairo MENA in English 1420 GMT
12 Jan 88

[Text] Khartoum, Jan 12 (MENA)—Egypt has intensified its political contacts with Ethiopia over the last few days to maintain the spirit of the mediation between Khartoum and Addis Ababa following the postponement of a meeting of the Sudanese-Ethiopian Joint Commission, "AL-ADWA" newspaper reported.

The paper said that Egypt has offered to host Sudanese and Ethiopian negotiators if the two sides failed to reach an agreement on a venue for their proposed talks.

The joint commission was due to hold a meeting in Khartoum on Thursday [7 January] but the Ethiopian delegation did not show up.

Khartoum construed the Ethiopian move as a direct result ensuing from the recent border provocations and skirmishes.

Ghali Leaves for 5-Day Visit to Guinea 7 Jan

NC070816 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0740 GMT 7 Jan 88

[Text] Cairo, 7 Jan (MENA)—Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, left Cairo for Paris on his way to Conakry this morning for a 5-day visit to Guinea. Minister Ghali is carrying a written message from President Husni Mubarak to Guinea President General Conte dealing with international and African issues, particularly the close cooperation between Cairo and Conakry.

During the visit, Minister Ghali will lead Egypt's delegation to the Egyptian-Guinea Joint Committee meetings, which will open on Saturday to discuss African issues and ways to coordinate the two countries' positions on these issues. The committee members will also discuss the promotion of bilateral relations and Guinea's requests for additional Egyptian expertise in the fields of training, agriculture, and medicine.

Al-Sharif Leaves for Addis Ababa 12 Jan

NC120812 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0645 GMT
12 Jan 88

[Excerpt] Cairo, 12 Jan (MENA)—Information Minister Safwat al-Sharif and an accompanying delegation left Cairo early this morning for Addis Ababa to attend the meetings of the African Intergovernment Media Council, as well as a 3-day conference with the African information minister that will open in the Ethiopian capital Wednesday.

In a predeparture statement, Al-Sharif said he is carrying a written message from President Husni Mubarak to Ethiopian President Mengistu Haile Mariam dealing with a number of African issues of common interest. He added that he will also relate President Mubarak's views on subjects of interest to both countries, foremost among them the need to create an atmosphere of understanding between Sudan and Ethiopia, and President Mubarak's eagerness to achieve reconciliation between these two countries.

Al-Sharif noted that he will report to the conference on Egypt's 3-year period as its chairman. His report will include efforts to streamline the Pan-African News Agency and fill major posts in this agency. The report will also outline accomplishments during this period in the field of training African media personnel—including approximately 200 trainees—in addition to the establishment of an institute to train workers in the field of news and satellite telecommunications, with the cooperation of the African broadcasting organization. Egypt hosts the headquarters of this institute and provides it with necessary equipment and technicians, he added. Al-Sharif pointed out that Egypt had been chosen as the permanent headquarters for the African Journalists Union, which has been supplied with needed financial, material, and technical support. Egypt will submit to the conference a working plan for future inter-African media cooperation and the training of national media personnel, he added. [passage omitted]

Jordanian Agriculture Minister Visits 9-12 Jan

NC120902 Cairo MENA in English 0720 GMT
12 Jan 88

[Text] Cairo, Jan 12 (MENA)—Jordanian Minister of Agriculture Marwan al-Humud left here this morning for home following a four-day visit to Egypt, during which he attended the conference on Arab agricultural coordination. The conference opened on Sunday and will wind up today.

In a pre-departure statement the Jordanian minister said that he discussed with Dr Yusuf Wali, deputy premier and minister of agriculture, aspects of agricultural cooperation between the two countries and added that they exchanged views on the possibility of setting up joint ventures. He added that Dr Wali will visit Jordan in late January.

He said that he was apprised of the Egyptian agricultural projects adding that Jordan will benefit from the Egyptian expertise in the field of agricultural management and land reclamation.

Kuwaiti Committee Signs Minutes on Investments
*NC091341 Cairo MENA in English 1300 GMT
9 Jan 88*

[Text] Cairo, Jan 9 (MENA)—Egypt and Kuwait have signed minutes of the special committee on investments and banking held between them, an official source at the Ministry of Cooperation has said.

He added that the statement, signed by Kuwaiti Finance Minister Jasim al-Kharafi during his recent visit here and Minister of State for International Cooperation Maurice Makramallah, dealt among other things with increasing the Kuwaiti investments in Egypt. It also stipulates increasing the trade exchange between the two countries, the source added.

Japan Signs Economic Cooperation Agreements
*NC121954 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1800 GMT
12 Jan 88*

[Text] Cairo, 12 Jan (MENA)—Economic Cooperation agreements were signed between Egypt and Japan today. Under these agreements, Egypt will receive an \$86 million loan and a \$23 million grant. The agreements were signed by Dr Maurice Makramallah, minister of state for international cooperation, and Japanese Ambassador in Cairo Hiroshi Hashimoto.

The loan, which will be settled over 20 years with a 10-year grace period, will be used to finance the first phase of the 300-megawatt Asyut thermal plant project.

Concerning the grants which were signed today, Japan will finance the project of constructing and furnishing an administrative training center in 10 Ramadan City. The grant allocated for this purpose amounts to \$10 million.

The second grant, amounting to approximately \$5 million, will be used to finance the project of expanding and developing Cairo University's Pediatrics Hospital. The third grant, approximately \$8 million, is to be used in financing a project improving, developing, and exploiting fisheries in the Mediterranean and the Red Sea. This grant also includes a training vessel. It should be recalled that the Japanese aid program to Egypt totals approximately \$260 million thus far.

Makramallah Meets Netherlands Delegation
*NC121552 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1315 GMT
12 Jan 88*

[Text] Cairo, 12 Jan (MENA)—Dr Maurice Makramallah, minister of state for international cooperation, met today with a Netherlands economic delegation currently

visiting Egypt. Netherlands Ambassador to Egypt Nicolaas Biegman was present at the meeting. The conferees discussed ways of promoting bilateral relations and prospects for cooperation between the two countries in 1988.

Meanwhile, the Joint Egyptian-Netherlands Committee began its meetings at the Ministry of International Cooperation. The Egyptian delegation was led by Dr 'Irfan al-Shafi'i, first under secretary at the ministry of international cooperation, while the Netherlands was represented by Mr Fanderkhah [name as received], under secretary at the Netherlands Economic Cooperation Ministry. During the meeting, the Netherlands expressed readiness to extend a 2-year easy-term loan to Egypt of approximately \$15 million. The loan will be used to finance a number of economic development projects in the economic, agricultural, industrial, electrical, irrigation, and construction areas.

The Netherlands will also make a grant of \$10 million to Egypt over the same 2-year period. Minutes of the committee's meeting are expected to be signed tomorrow.

Missile Contract With British Aerospace Renewed
*NC112049 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2003 GMT
11 Jan 88*

[Text] Cairo, 11 Jan (MENA)—The Arab Industrialization Organization and the British Aerospace company today renewed their contract pertaining to the manufacture of Swingfire antitank missiles for an additional 10 years.

Lieutenant General Ibrahim al-'Urabi, chairman of the Board of Directors of the Arab Industrialization Organization, who signed the new agreement, said that the contract will enable the organization to produce new missiles in order to meet the needs of the Armed Forces and friendly states.

Eng Yusuf Mustafa, chairman of the Board of Directors of the Arab Company for Dynamic Industries, said that the company has plans to modify the Swingfire missiles and several programs for the production of air-to-air and surface-to-air missiles, air navigation systems, and ground control equipment. He added that the company has exported many Swingfire missiles to Arab states and that it is ready to meet the needs of Arab and friendly states at competitive prices.

Norwegian Oil Minister Concludes Visit 9 Jan
*NC091514 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1340 GMT
9 Jan 88*

[Text] Cairo, 9 Jan (MENA)—Norwegian Minister of Oil and Energy Arne Oien, departed from Cairo for home today at the conclusion of 1-week visit to Egypt.

During his stay in Cairo, the Norwegian minister held talks with 'Abd al-Hadi Qandil, minister of petroleum and mineral resources, on ways of promoting bilateral cooperation in the petroleum area. Their discussions also dealt with coordination with regard to the international oil market. The Norwegian minister also inspected Egyptian oil fields in the Gulf of Suez and visited the world's most modern gas liquefaction plant.

Oil Minister Qandil on Production, Income

PM111011 London AL-MAJALLAH in Arabic
6 Jan 88 pp 36, 37

[Interview with Petroleum and Mineral Resources Minister 'Abd al-Hadi Qandil by Khalid Jabr in Cairo; date not given]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] [Jabr] Apart from the matter of prices, are there no indications that deserve to be recorded concerning exploration, production, and refining activities?

[Qandil] Exploration activities in Egypt were naturally affected by the recession in world exploration activities, due to the hardship caused by the prices. However, last year we were able to sign 15 new petroleum agreements with 8 companies. Furthermore, the People's Assembly recently gave its approval for 12 new agreements, and 8 other agreements are currently being submitted to the Cabinet, as well as 7 agreements which are still being negotiated. [passage omitted]

As for the discoveries themselves, the number of exploratory wells last year reached 81, of which 39 were offshore and 42 were on land. The total depth drilled reached 692,464 feet, which is undoubtedly a good average. These wells have yielded 19 new oil and gas discoveries—equalling the previous year's figure—and of those 5 were in the Gulf of Suez and 12 were in the Western Desert. What is new about it all is the discovery of very new petroleum strata in the Gulf of Suez. Moreover, the Western Desert has opened its doors and added 12 discoveries at one time, the result of the increase in exploration activity in this region.

Furthermore, the first oil find was made in the Mediterranean region by a French company, and an Italian company found natural gas. The Gulf of Suez fields are: "Fulayfil," "Bala'im," "Asran," "G 294," and "IG 1." As for the Western Desert fields, there are five belonging to the Khalidah company, which are "Safir," "Hayat," "Shamal Salam," "Salam Tut," and "Kahraman"; three belonging to the 'Ajiba Company, namely "Lotus," "Durrak," and "Zahrak"; and three belonging to the Badr al-Din company—"Badr 4," "Badr 1-6," and "Badr 11-1". The last field, "Shamal Abu al-Gharadiq," belongs to the Jabku company.

The recent discoveries are in two fields belonging to the Suez Gulf Petroleum Company, which are "Ramadan" and "October." The two fields have in fact been producing for many years. However, if you add the two new wells to them, the "Ramadan" reserves are around 180 million and the "October" reserves 220 million barrels; that is to say that the reserves of these two finds, made only 1 month ago, come to 300 [figure as published] million barrels, which is roughly our production in a whole year.

So the national reserves of crude oil total 4,685 million barrels, and natural gas reserves 9 trillion cubic feet. These two figures represent double the reserves existing just 5 years ago. [passage omitted]

[Jabr] But does the fixed production figure (870,000 barrels a day) realize Egypt's petroleum ambitions? In other words, does it suffice for its consumption and create an adequate surplus for export?

[Qandil] The truth is that Egypt consumes nearly half its petroleum output. Our consumption was 6 million tons [not further specified] yearly in 1970. It jumped to 13 million tons in 1980 and continued to increase year by year until it reached 22 million tons of petroleum and natural gas products. However, there is a good phenomenon, which is the decrease in the average consumption this [as published] year in comparison to the previous year. Consumption of petroleum products the previous year was 18.2 million tons, and this year it has been just 17.9 million tons. That is of course due to the successful policy of rationalizing consumption and the policy of reliance on natural gas instead of oil in factories, power plants, and homes. Our gas consumption has gone up from 3.6 million to 4.3 million tons in 1 year, and that is the intended increase with the aim of preserving our oil. [passage omitted]

[Jabr] With regard to the revenues, what is the figure for Egypt's petroleum revenues for last year? Has it been affected by the recent confusion in prices, and to what extent?

[Qandil] Egypt was one of the petroleum exporting states most affected by the 1986 price war ignited by some of the OPEC states. The result of that war was the collapse of the value of our exports of crude oil and products, from 3,340 million dollars to 1,083 million dollars last year—a rate of decrease of 68 percent. As for the petroleum balance of payments surplus (the difference between exports and imports), last year it came to 697 million dollars, as compared with 2.63 billion dollars for the previous year—a drop of around 73%. This has placed the Egyptian economy in a difficult predicament from which the state is fighting to recover. The development of the Egyptian balance of payments has witnessed big changes. In 1975, it constituted a deficit estimated at around 65 million dollars. After that date it began to achieve a surplus, rising to 2,657 million dollars in 1980 and 2.8 billion in 1981. In 1982 the balance fell to 2,457

million dollars, the decline continued in 1983 to 2,191 million dollars, then the figure increased again to 2,324 million dollars in 1984 and 2.63 billion in 1985. But last year the net petroleum surplus decline substantially, to 697 million dollars. [passage omitted]

Envoy to Moscow Views Relations With USSR

PM111619 London AL-TADAMUN in Arabic
9 Jan 88 p 19

[Interview with Ambassador to Soviet Union Salah Basyuni by Dr Sami 'Imarah in Moscow; date not given]

[Text] ['Imarah] What has the Egyptian-Soviet cultural agreement produced after a period of 30 years?

[Basyuni] Undoubtedly the agreement has helped in achieving a major boost to Egyptian-Soviet relations. It has also secured common ground for both political and intellectual understanding between the two parties. Of course, the cultural agreement has not been confined to sending Egyptian students to study in the Soviet Union or Soviet students to study in Egypt. It has gone beyond that to establish an art renaissance. Twenty years ago the Soviet Union participated in establishing the Arts Academy and helped us form a symphony orchestra—the first in both Egypt and the Arab world. It also helped in developing the Egyptian cinema.

['Imarah] Are cultural relations linked to other types of Egyptian-Soviet relations?

[Basyuni] As I have mentioned, cultural relations help secure a base of understanding. Egyptian scientists played a major part in developing economic cooperation between the two countries. They constituted a link that helped us understand Soviet science, thought, and technological advances, from which Egypt has benefited over a long period of cooperation.

['Imarah] Egyptian-Soviet relations are proceeding on the road to normality. What can be said regarding the long-term trade and economic agreement expected to be concluded in the near future?

[Basyuni] The volume of trade exchange between Egypt and the Soviet Union is substantial, amounting to nearly 1 billion dollars a year, and we expect the volume of trade exchange between the two countries to increase under this agreement. We also expect Soviet participation in implementing a number of important projects to increase in the second 5-year plan for economic and social development in Egypt.

['Imarah] Since President Mubarak assumed power Egyptian policy has been substantially different from that pursued earlier—which makes a good impression on Soviet citizens. It is well known that Egyptian-Soviet relations are influenced by Egypt's international stands, especially when Egypt takes up issues that upset its friend. What would you say?

[Basyuni] Egypt's policy has always been balanced, but international and regional developments around us made Egyptian policy look as if it was aligned with one party at the expense of another—something which is not in line with the true Egyptian foreign policy. Of course there were distinct relations between Egypt and the Soviet Union, but this was attributable to a U.S. policy hostile to Egypt. At another stage there were distinct relations with the United States; and this was attributable to the fact that over a particular period of time the Soviet Union adopted stands incompatible with Egyptian policy. However, President Mubarak's era has restored normalcy to matters, establishing the policy of Egypt as a main regional power in the Middle East and as a principal actor in the Nonaligned Movement; it has also restored balance to Egyptian foreign policy and placed it in its natural framework. In our political maneuvers we do not use our relations with one foreign power at the expense of another. Our relations with both Moscow and Washington are relations of friendliness and cooperation, and we absolutely do not accept that one relationship is maintained at the expense of another.

['Imarah] What is your opinion of the current suggestion that a change has occurred in Soviet policy in the Middle East regarding both the situation in the Gulf and contacts with Israel?

[Basyuni] It can be said that Soviet policy is basically characterized by both realism and flexibility. The Soviet stand on the Iraq-Iran war is known. The Soviet Union participated in drafting Security Council Resolution 598 calling on Iran to accept the resolution, implement its stipulations, and stop the war. There has been a development in the Soviet Union's relationship with Iran. We hope that this development in Soviet-Iranian relations will eventually lead Iran to accept the Security Council resolution in full, so that this bloody conflict will be brought to an end.

As for the question of contacts or relations between the Soviet Union and Israel, we know that the Soviet Union still maintains a principled stand regarding the question of restoring diplomatic relations with Israel. Mikhail Gorbachev referred to this by saying: The nonexistence of such relations is abnormal, but they can only be restored through movement in the peace process toward a political settlement, that is, through the convening of an international conference. As for diplomatic contacts, that is a matter removed from diplomatic relations. In striving to convene an international conference, the Soviet Union sees it as essential that there should be contacts, but certainly not diplomatic relations, within the framework of diplomatic efforts aimed at achieving a comprehensive political settlement to the Arab-Israeli conflict.

['Imarah] You assumed the position of Egyptian ambassador in Moscow when relations with Moscow were at a less than normal level. Today some people say that these relations are in the ascendant. What is your comment?

[Basyuni] When I assumed this position 3 years ago there was what could be called a summer cloud over these relations. I say this because Egyptian-Soviet relations were established on strong foundations that have continued and never stopped, as some people imagine, because of differences at a particular stage. The trade exchange between the two countries is being maintained as normal, though it has not developed the way both parties would wish. As for economic cooperation, the Soviet Union has never stopped supplying Egypt with spare parts and experts during that period. Politically, the Egyptian line has always been clear with regard to the Soviet Union.

Libya

Algeria's Bendjedid Ends Visit, Departs
*LD121636 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1559 GMT
12 Jan 88*

[Excerpt] Tripoli, 12 Jan, JANA—Chadli Bendjedid, secretary general of the Algerian FLN and president of the Republic, and his accompanying delegation left Tripoli this afternoon after a visit to the Great Jamahiriya during which he held talks with the brother leader of the revolution.

President Chadli Bendjedid was accorded a big farewell. The brother leader of the revolution was at the forefront of those who saw President Bendjedid off. [passage omitted]

Bendjedid Praises Talks
*LD122015 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1830 GMT
12 Jan 88*

[Text] Tripoli 12 Jan (JANA)—Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid has sent a message to the brother leader of the revolution on his departure from the Great Jamahiriya today. It says:

Brother Mu'ammār al-Qadhafi: After our visit to the fraternal Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, which has enabled us to examine the fruitful results of all aspects of cooperation between our two fraternal countries, it pleases us to reiterate our deep thanks for the warm welcome given us during our stay in the territory of the hospitable Jamahiriya.

We want to reaffirm to you Algeria's eagerness to further advance toward laying sound and strong foundations for building our great Arab Maghreb, thus paving the way for the realization of comprehensive unity for our Arab nation.

On this occasion, it gives us pleasure to laud the great fraternal atmosphere of our talks and the ideas for the future that we set forth together for the good of the Arab people in our two fraternal countries and that of the Arab nation.

We pray to Almighty God to give you good health and to accord to the fraternal Libyan people the progress and prosperity it desires.

Participants Noted

*LD122157 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic
1830 GMT 12 Jan 88*

[Text] President Chadli Bendjedid, president of the Republic and party secretary general, returned home at noon today after the two working and friendly visits to Tunisia and the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya at the head of an important delegation.

The president was welcomed at Hawwari Bumadyan International Airport by the Political Bureau members, after which he heard the national anthem. The president and his delegation left Tripoli International Airport for home at noon today at the end of a 2-day working and friendly visit to the Libyan Jamahiriya. He was seen off by Colonel Mu'ammār al-Qadhafi, leader of the Libyan revolution, the secretary and members of the General People's Congress Secretariat, members of the Libyan General People's Committee, the secretary of the Libyan Arab Fraternity Bureau in Algeria, and a number of senior officers of the Libyan Armed Forces.

In Tripoli yesterday evening, the president held talks with Libyan officials. The talks dealt with the various aspects of bilateral cooperation in the political, economic, and other fields. The talks resumed this morning at the Al-Kabir Hotel in Tripoli between President Chadli Bendjedid and Col Mu'ammār al-Qadhafi.

The talks were attended on the Algerian side by Brothers Mohamed Cherif Messaadia, Political Bureau member in charge of the Permanent Secretariat of the Central Committee; Dr Ahmed Taleb Ibrahim, Political Bureau member and foreign affairs minister; Larbi Belkheir, Cabinet director; Hadi Khdiri, minister of interior; and Abdelkader Hadjar, ambassador of Algeria to the Jamahiriya.

On the Libyan side the talks were attended by 'Aziz al-Talhi, the secretary of the People's Committee of the People's Foreign Liaison Bureau; Fawzi Shakshuki, secretary of the General People's Civil Service Committee; Sa'd Mujbir, secretary of the Libyan Fraternity Bureau in Algeria.

During these talks, all points pertaining to bilateral relations, economic integration, and the edification of the Arab Maghreb were discussed. Both sides exchanged views on eliminating all obstacles, including searching for a solution to the Sahara problem in accordance with OAU and UN resolutions.

Also both sides referred to African issues, including the Chadian problem. Concerning the Palestine problem, both sides confirmed their full support for the popular uprising in the occupied territories and called for the consolidation of Arab solidarity around the fateful cause of the Arab nation.

Discussions Reviewed

LD122331 Algiers Domestic Service in French
2200 GMT 12 Jan 88

[Text] President Chadli Bendjedid returned to Algiers this evening after working and friendship visits to Tunisia and Libya. The Algerian-Libyan talks in Tripoli enabled the two sides to carry out an in-depth examination of all matters linked with bilateral relations, economic development, and the building of a greater Arab Maghreb.

The Algerian and Libyan sides described the resumption of diplomatic relations between the Libyan Jamahiriyyah and the Tunisian Republic, and the efforts made by Algeria to strengthen the fraternal links and improve the climate as positive.

In connection with the building of a greater Arab Maghreb, the Algerian and Libyan sides exchanged views on eradicating all hindrances, and on the search for a solution to the Saharan question in accordance with OAU and UN resolutions. They also tackled matters concerning Africa, including the Chadian problem. When discussing the Palestinian cause, they reiterated their absolute backing for the popular uprising in the occupied territories, and called for greater Arab solidarity.

Al-Qadhdhafi Reportedly To Visit Tunisia

LD111548 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1319 GMT
11 Jan 87

["Pool" item]

[text] Tunis, Jan 11 (MENA)—Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi will visit Tunis in the next few days to discuss with President Zine El Abedine Ben Ali economic and social problems of joint interest, as well as problems concerning the Arab Maghreb, the Tunisian daily AL-SABAH stressed Monday.

Colonel al-Qadhdhafi already expressed his desire to visit Tunisia, especially after the November 7 changes and the normalization of relations between the two countries.

Mauritania

Egyptian Envoy Lauds Resumption of Relations

AB102017 Nouakchott Domestic Service in French
1430 GMT 10 Jan 88

[Text] The Egyptian ambassador to Mauritania, His Excellency Ahmad 'Abd al-Majid 'Ali, today delivered his credentials to the head of state and was later received in audience. Following the discussions, the Egyptian diplomat said he had delivered the greetings of President Husni Mubarak to Colonel Maaouya Sid'Ahmed Ould Taya. He also expressed satisfaction with the reestablishment of diplomatic relations between Cairo and Nouakchott. Mr Ahmad 'Abd al-Majid 'Ali stressed that Egypt's return to the Arab world is going to strengthen Arab unity and solidarity.

Present at the ceremony of presentation of credentials were Mohamed Lamine Ould N'Diayane, minister of foreign affairs and international cooperation; Barro Abdoulaye, secretary general of the government; the permanent under secretary of the chairman of the CMSN and head of state, and [words indistinct], Brahma Ould Abdellahi, Mactar Ould Moussa, and the permanent secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, [name indistinct] [words indistinct] [names, titles as heard]

Taya Receives Malian Minister, Message

AB111334 Nouakchott Domestic Service in French
0700 GMT 11 Jan 88

[Text] Head of state Colonel Maaouya Ould Sid'Ahmed Taya yesterday morning received Drissa Keita, Malian minister of industrial development and tourism and the current chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Senegal River Development Organization, OMVS. Following the audience, Mr Keita stated that he was bearer of a message from Malian President General Moussa Traore to the head of state. The message dealt with the strengthening of bilateral cooperation as well as of subregional cooperation as part of their membership of the OMVS.

The second reason for the visit of the Malian minister of industrial development and tourism is that in his capacity as current chairman of the OMVS Council of Ministers, he has come to brief Col Maaouya Ould Sid'Ahmed Taya, chairman of the CMSN, head of state, and current chairman of the Conference of Heads of State, about the progress being made on the organization's projects.

Provincial Election Results Released

AB101610 Nouakchott Domestic Service in French
1430 GMT 10 Jan 88

[Text] The final results of the provincial elections that were held in our country this weekend were released yesterday. The results were announced by the minister of interior, information, and telecommunications, Colonel Djibril Ould Abdellahi. [passage indistinct]

Drawing the lessons from this election, part of the second phase of the democratic process, the daily CHAAB said this morning that this once again (?demonstrates) the high level of maturity of the Mauritanian people. The paper says that within record time Mauritania has been able to make important strides toward the establishment of a system that encourages popular initiatives and creativity. (?They will thus be activated) to serve as a stepping stone toward the realization of other new socioeconomic and cultural achievements. A beautiful lesson in solidarity [words indistinct] was exemplified on 8 January. According to the paper, history will retain the fact that our people have (?brilliantly) passed their second test in the domestic process.

Morocco

Doctors Advise King Hassan To Continue Resting

LD121646 Rabat MAP in Arabic 1530 GMT
12 Jan 88

[Text] Ifrane, Morocco, 12 Jan (MAP)—Doctors have advised the Moroccan sovereign King Hassan II to undertake further rest in order to improve his convalescence.

This came in a communique issued today by the Ministry of the Royal Household, Protocol, and Chancery.

The doctors advised his majesty the king last week to rest for a period of at least 24 hours because of a high temperature they had noticed in a medical checkup which they carried out on his majesty. The temperature was brought on by a bad cold.

Further on Visit by UK's Home Minister Hurd

Meets With Basri

LD071339 Rabat MAP in English 1212 GMT
7 Jan 88

[Text] Casablanca, Jan 7 (MAP)—British Home Minister Douglas Hurd arrived in Morocco Wednesday on a state visit at the invitation of his Moroccan peer Driss Basri.

In a statement to the press, Hurd expressed his joy to be in Morocco, a country that he visited while he was secretary of state for foreign affairs. He said his visit aims at promoting bilateral cooperation and discussing means of conducting an efficient action regarding the struggle against terrorism and drugs trafficking.

This visit, he went on to say, will also provide the opportunity to exchange viewpoints with the minister of the interior and other Cabinet members.

Before coming to Morocco, the British home minister was on a four day visit to Tunisia where he discussed with Tunisian officials the possibility of concluding

agreements on consular cooperation and judiciary assistance with a view to organizing and protecting the circulation of the two countries' nationals.

The joint communique published at the end of this visit said the two parties also discussed means of coordinating efforts for struggle against terrorism and trafficking of prohibited products, such as drugs.

Interior and Information Minister Driss Basri Wednesday conferred here with British Home Secretary Douglas Hurd on issues of common concern.

The two sides later held a working session attended by close aides and members of the British delegation. They tackled bilateral cooperation and the means to further boost it.

Signs Terrorism, Drug Protocol

LD072148 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic
2000 GMT 7 Jan 88

[Text] Today at the Interior Ministry a protocol agreement was signed between the Moroccan and British Kingdoms concerning cooperation in the field of combatting drug smuggling, organized crime, and international terrorism. The agreement specifies exchanging information, expertise, and the means of combatting drug smuggling, organized crime, and international terrorism.

This agreement was signed on behalf of the Moroccan side by Mr Driss Basri, minister of interior and information, and on behalf of the British side by Home Secretary Douglas Hurd.

On this occasion, the British home secretary described the signing of this agreement as an important step, which comes after a royal visit to Britain. After thanking the minister for the warm reception with which he and his accompanying delegation were met, Mr Hurd recalled the official visit paid by the British monarch to our country and the visit paid by his majesty King Hassan II to London last year. The visits contributed to strengthening the cooperation between the two countries. The British secretary said that both Morocco and Britain play an important role in the international arena, and that the two countries have the same preoccupations about protecting their citizens from crime and at the same time preserving a liberal view of society.

Mr Douglas Hurd pointed out that his country combats anything that might violate civilized values. Mr Hurd said: We can see that Morocco has the same aim. This becomes clear through the clear and firm stances of his majesty King Hassan II against terrorism and drug smuggling.

The British official stressed that signing this protocol translates the wish of the two countries to consolidate the existing cooperation relations for the benefit of both peoples.

At the end of his speech, he expressed his satisfaction with the results achieved by his visit, which was an opportunity for exchanging views.

In his reply Mr Driss Basri, minister of interior and information, recalled at the beginning of his speech the visit to Morocco paid in 1980 by the British monarch Queen Elizabeth II, the visit paid by his majesty King Hassan II to Britain, and the positive results and benefits from the historic visits on both the Moroccan and British peoples. The two visits contributed to consolidating the relations of cooperation and understanding between the two countries and their peoples, who are looking forward to developing and widening their exchanges to a level reflecting the standard of their historic friendship.

Mr Driss Basri said: Therefore, and in implementation of the august directives of his majesty King Hassan II and the British monarch Queen Elizabeth II and British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, and within an atmosphere of freedom, liberalism, and respect of human dignity, the two countries are working towards consolidating bilateral cooperation in all fields.

The minister recalled that Britain has progressed a great deal, and has overcome a number of problems it has faced in this march forward.

The minister of interior and information pointed out that Morocco has witnessed under the well-guided leadership of his majesty King Hassan II an important development in the field of territorial management, decentralization, strengthening the bases of democracy, and protecting the citizens. Morocco, he said, will be a partner of the UK that will work with a strong will, stemming from these august royal directives, toward consolidating the joint action for the public good of the citizens.

The signing ceremony was attended by the close advisors of the minister of interior and information, as well as the members of the British delegation accompanying Mr Douglas Hurd.

This evening, the British home secretary continued his contacts with a number of his majesty's government members. Accompanied by the British ambassador to Rabat and members of the delegation, he was received by Abdellatif Filali, minister of foreign affairs and cooperation; Justice Minister Moulay Mustafa Belarbi Alaoui; Taieb Bencheikh, public health minister; and Labor Minister Hassan Abbadi. During these meetings they reviewed various aspects of the existing relations between the Moroccan and British Kingdoms and the means to consolidate cooperation in various fields.

At the beginning of his activities this morning, Mr Douglas Hurd visited Mohammed V Mausoleum, where he observed 1 minute of silence praying for the soul of the late king and signed the mausoleum's golden book. He toured the various facilities of the mausoleum where he was informed about the architectural and historic points of the mausoleum.

Notes Positive Results of Talks

LD120027 Rabat MAP in English 1207 GMT
11 Jan 88

[Text] Marrakesh, Jan 11 (MAP)—Great Britain's Home Minister Douglas Hurd left here Sunday after a few days visit to Morocco at the invitation of his peer Driss Basri. Before leaving, Hurd hailed excellent relations between the two countries and termed as "positive" the results of his talks with Moroccan officials. Hurd also recalled the agreement he initialed with Minister of the Interior and Information Driss Basri pertaining to the struggle against drugs, organized crime and international terrorism. During his stay, Hurd visited the Royal Police Institute in Kenitra and the City of Marrakesh.

Sudan

Egyptian Troops Reportedly Cross North Borders

JN121721 Khartoum SUNA in English 1705 GMT
12 Jan 88

[All quotation marks as received]

[Text] Khartoum Jan 12 (SUNA)—The Egyptian troops have recently walked seven kms inside the northern borders of Sudan and camped there after they confiscated fishery equipment from a group of fishermen and led one of them back inside Egypt a spokesman for a group of citizens from Halfa town northern Sudan said today following a meeting with State Council Member Dr 'Ali Hassan Taj al-Din.

The spokesman said though protest telegrams were cabled to the government no official step has been taken yet.

The spokesman has however expressed hope that the issue would be solved in the context of the brotherhood charter between Sudan and Egypt.

He pinpointed that the situation in the Al-Nubah Lake has deteriorated "despite our concern for neighbourhood and the eternal relations between the two countries he said.

He meanwhile stressed that "this does not mean we are to accept any kind of abuse inside our country.

Al-Mahdi Preparing for 'Foreign Attack'
*EA122004 Dakar PANA in French 1412 GMT
12 Jan 88*

[Text] Khartoum, 12 Jan (MENA/PANA)—Sudanese Prime Minister al-Sadiq al-Mahdi Tuesday declared to the new session of the Constituent Assembly (parliament) that while liberating Kurmuk and Kinbadah [as received] the National Armed Forces had suffered 49 men killed, 125 wounded, and 23 missing. The rebels losses were 866 dead and 1,500 wounded.

He said that foreign prisoners had admitted the role of foreign countries in the aggression. Sudan, he added, preferred peaceful and democratic solutions to internal problems and good relations with its neighbors.

Sudan is currently preparing to face internal sabotage and a foreign attack, he affirmed.

Minister Explains Ethiopian Border Situation
*JN121338 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1040 GMT
12 Jan 88*

[Text] Khartoum, 12 Jan (SUNA)—Retired Major General Fadlallah Burmah Nasir, minister of state in the Ministry of Defense, has said that he does not think Ethiopia has new aggressive intentions against Sudan. He explained that under the current circumstances each party is reinforcing its defensive positions. He was responding to journalists' questions yesterday about reports being circulated that Ethiopia had massed troops along the eastern border.

He added that before the attack on Qaysan and Kurmuk late last year, Sudan had only token troops along the border in order to show its good intentions, but after the act of aggression, more troops had to be sent to the border. He expressed hope that peace and accord will prevail between Sudan and Ethiopia, and that only symbolic troops will go back to the border.

Concerning reports that a clash has occurred between the Armed Forces and the Chadian forces of Shaykh ibn Oumar, the minister disclosed that a clash had taken place about 2 months ago. He stressed that accord is now prevailing in the area and that Sudan is seeking to turn over a new leaf. He said that the attempt to repeat old information is not a healthy phenomenon; it is an escalation intended to create a disturbance at the present time.

Opposition on Ethiopian Interference, Charter
*JN121549 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1452 GMT
12 Jan 88*

[Text] Khartoum, 12 Jan (SUNA)—Opposition leader 'Ali 'Uthman Muhammad Taha has described the government's position on Ethiopia's actions as confusing and vague. He asserted that the government has hidden all material evidence of Ethiopia's interference in the

recent battles on the eastern border. He added that the negotiations Ethiopia is seeking will center on eliminating the effects of its aggression. Such negotiations will not produce positive results. He also pointed out that the government did not move to gain world public opinion.

At a news conference held today, the opposition leader said Ethiopia's direct interference in Sudan is certain, and that from June 1987 to July 1987 Ethiopian planes had violated Sudanese air space 14 times and Ethiopian ground forces had infiltrated Sudan 4 times.

Regarding the opposition Islamic Front's position on Sudan's charter which was signed last Sunday, the opposition leader said the idea of the charter is acceptable. However, he voiced reservations about the charter's contents and policy. He described it as a delaying and stalling policy that postpones hot issues and is in line with the government's policy.

His excellency said the aggression against Kurmuk and Qaysan had destroyed government establishments, markets, and houses. He praised the Armed Forces and the Arab countries that supported them. He also expressed satisfaction with the results of the general mobilization, saying such a mobilization should also take place abroad, and criticized the administrative position on Kurmuk and Qaysan.

Committee on Constitution To Contact SPLM
*EA112043 Khartoum SUNA in English 1720 GMT
11 Jan 88*

[Text] Khartoum, 11 Jan (SUNA)—The committee entrusted to contact political parties on matters related to the Sudanese Transitional Constitution, will get in touch with the SPLM of John Garang, the chairman of the committee said today. Dr. Pacifico Lado Lolik, member of the Head of States Council, pinpointed that contacts with the SPLM would be a serious step for the convening of the National Constitutional Conference which is expected to tackle Sudan's national issues, prominent among them the south Sudan question.

The Transitional Constitution was signed yesterday by eleven political parties. However, both the Islamic National Front, the main opposition group in the Sudanese Assembly and the Sudanese CP [Communist Party], which constitutes the democratic opposition in the assembly, did not sign along with other small south Sudan political parties.

Al-Mahdi Addresses Assembly on SPLM Contacts
*JN111740 Khartoum SUNA in English 1725 GMT
11 Jan 88*

[Text] Khartoum, Jan. 11 (SUNA)—The Prime Minister al-Sadiq al-Mahdi today addressed the Constituent Assembly on issues of national interest.

The prime minister revealed that contacts with the Sudanese People's Liberation Movement (SPLM), which were held in London recently has resulted in an agreement that a cease fire would be possible to reach after the lifting of the state of emergency in the country and that the Islamic rules would not be among the laws to be abrogated along with the September 1983 laws.

The premier revealed that in the recent battles against the rebels in eastern Sudan the Sudanese Armed Forces lost 49 soldiers and that 125 others were injured while fourteen others are still missing.

He said the rebels were sustained 566 deaths and 1500 injured and that number of rebels were held as prisoners.

Commissioner Denies Hindering Ugandan Refugees
JN121945 Khartoum SUNA in English 1740 GMT 12 Jan 88

[Text] Khartoum, Jan 12 (SUNA)—Refugee Commissioner Hasan 'Atiyyah categorically denied allegations carried by the Kenyan daily (THE STANDARD) that the Sudan hindered Ugandan refugees repatriation to their homeland.

In a press statement here Tuesday, the commissioner said the Sudan had not imposed any restrictions over return of Ugandan refugees, who are now stationing in the southern Sudan, to their country. 'Atiyyah said that 70 thousand Ugandan refugee out of 250 thousand were actually transported from the south Sudan to Uganda in an implementation to a previous agreement signed lately in Kampala by the Sudan and Uganda.

The agreement stipulates that approval of the Ugandan Government to receive those refugees who are willing to return to Uganda should be obtained through the (UNHCR) [United Nations High Commission on Refugees] representative in the Sudan and refugee nationality should be checked before undertaking any repatriation operation.

The commissioner said that the Ugandan refugees cannot represent any protection to the Sudan adding that they, on the contrary, create substantial difficulties, and particularly in security dimensions. He, further, emphasized readiness of concerned bodies in the country to facilitate Ugandan refugees and all others to their homelands if they (refugees) showed willingness and their governments agreed to receive them.

Further on Clashes Between Government, SPLA

SPLA Claims Victory at Raga
EA081652 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 8 Jan 88

[Excerpt] SPLA units of Rajjaf, Twik Twik, and one company of Tiger Battalion under the direct command of Captain Lino Garang and the overall command of

Commander Daniel Aweit Akuot, alternate member of SPLM-SPLA Political-Military High Command and zonal commander for Northern Bahr al-Ghazal, launched an attack on the enemy at Raga town on 27 December 1987. The SPLA correspondent says that nine enemy soldiers, including officers, were killed. Three APC's and four trucks carrying the following plate numbers—11401, 9084, 778728, and 22390—were completely destroyed. [passage omitted]

SPLA Gaderu Ambush Kills 29
EA082204 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in Latuka 1100 GMT 8 Jan 88

[Excerpt] SPLA forces of Hammer Task Force No. 2, under the direct command of Captain Garang Ngor and overall command of Commander James Wani Igga, ambushed an enemy force at Gaderu 18 miles from Kajo Kaji on 29 December 1987. Our correspondent accompanying the SPLA unit said one APC, two Magirus trucks, and a mine detecting vehicle with all its crew were totally destroyed. Twenty-nine enemy troops were reported killed and many others wounded. [passage omitted]

Heavy Casualties at Bentiu
EA082148 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 Gmt 8 Jan 88

[Excerpt] Combined SPLA units of Mut Rask force and Oil battalion under the operation command of alternate Commander Elijah Hontop, and the overall command of commander Riak Machar Teng, alternate member of SPLM-SPLA Political-Military High Command and zonal commander for Western Upper Nile, raided Bentiu town garrison on 1 January 1988. The correspondent says that the enemy suffered very heavy casualties in both men and materiel. Four houses and military equipment were burned down. [passage omitted]

Nile Battalion Kills 20
EA092042 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 9 Jan 88

[Excerpt] More than 20 militiamen have been killed and several others sustained injuries in a clash with SPLA forces of Nile battalion at (Gok Magiri) area near (Kirkou) in (Awal) village. The SPLA forces in that area are under the operation Command of Captain Dominic Deng Deng and overall command of Alternate Commander Chuol Ayuwak. Correspondent says that the Sadiq militiamen had gone to the area with an intention to loot the citizens food and property. The rest of the militia force was simply dispersed in disarray. [passage omitted]

Capture of Kapoeta

EA121525 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 12 Jan 88

[Text] The SPLM-SPLA Military High Command today issued the following military communique:

After 7 days of tactical fighting, starting on 2 January 1988, and 3 days of very heavy fighting, SPLA forces of the Bright Star campaign consisting of forces of the first and fourth axis and of central south Sudan and of eastern equatorial zonal command today Tuesday, 12 January 1988, at 0300 Sudan local time captured Kapoeta town [150 miles east of Juba], the capital of Kapoeta District in Equatoria administrative area.

The people of (Toposa), Didinga, and Boya are now jubilantly celebrating in every town and village in Kapoeta District. SPLA forces are in pursuit of the remnants of Al-Sadiq's fleeing force. The people of (Toposa) and Latuka are asked to report the whereabouts of the fugitive Colonel PSC [Passed Staff College] Abd al-Munim Mahjub and his remnants and report to the nearest SPLA garrison in the area. All SPLA units are ordered to spare their lives as POW's in compliance with the SPLA's policy.

Details of the capture of Kapoeta will follow after pursuit and exploitation operations are completed.

Briefs

New Provincial Commissioners

The Council of Ministers issued a resolution today appointing commissioners for Kordofan and Darfur regions. The resolution provided for the appointment of Mr. 'Ali Jamma Abdallah as commissioner for southern Kordofan Province; Jumah Muhammad Ahmad, commissioner for northern Kordofan Province; Yusuf Takanah, commissioner for northern Darfur; and Idris (?Jaz-zah) Idris, commissioner for southern Darfur Province. [Text] [Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 11 Jan 88 EA]

Western Sahara

Polisario Willing To Cooperate With OAU, UN

LD091700 Algiers APS in Arabic 0800 GMT 9 Jan 88

[Text] A Sahran Information Ministry communique has stated that during its regular meeting held last Thursday [7 January], the Political Bureau of the Polisario Front reiterated the Saharan Government's continued readiness to cooperate totally and sincerely with the OAU and

the United Nations to implement the peace plan for the Western Sahara as stipulated in Resolutions 104 and 42/78 of the OAU and the UN respectively.

The communique adds: "The Polisario Front has fully cooperated with the UN-OAU Technical Commission. Evidence of such cooperation can be seen in the extensive facilities accorded to it in order to collect data and information, as well as the truce that was announced unilaterally by the Sahran Democratic Arab Republic [SDAR] to enable the commission to properly carry out its duties."

With regard to the referendum, the Political Bureau of the Polisario Front has reaffirmed that there will not be peace as long as the Kingdom of Morocco occupies any SDAR territory, and that no referendum will be held before all aspects of Moroccan occupation are completely ended, particularly the military, administrative, and settlement aspects.

After assessing the work done in all fields during the past year, the Polisario Political Bureau approved the projects contained in the 1988 program of action.

The Political Bureau also reiterated the support of the Saharan people for the legitimate struggle the Palestinian people are waging under the leadership of the PLO. In this context, the Political Bureau of the Polisario Front hailed the brave resistance of the Arab masses in the occupied territories.

It also reiterated fraternal solidarity with the struggle of the Namibian people and the people of South Africa under the leadership of SWAPO [South-West African People's Organization] and the African National Congress respectively.

The Political Bureau condemned the racist military aggression against the People's Republic of Angola and reiterated the solidarity of the Polisario Front and the SDAR Government with the Frontline States.

In conclusion, the Polisario Political Bureau expressed deep satisfaction with all the countries, political and humanitarian organizations, and others for their support for the struggle of the Saharan people, at the forefront of which are the people, government, and party of fraternal Algeria led by President Chadli Bendjedid.

Bahrain

Reportage on Visit by Egypt's Husni Mubarak

Arrives in Manama 13 Jan

JN130905 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0850 GMT
13 Jan 88

[Excerpt] Manama, 13 Jan (WAKH)—Egyptian President Husni Mubarak arrived in Manama today on an official visit to Bahrain within the framework of his current tour of the GCC states. The Egyptian president was received by Bahraini Deputy Amir Shaykh Hamad ibn 'Isa Al Khalifah, the ministers, and senior government and military officials. [passage omitted]

Official Talks Begin

JN131101 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1040 GMT
13 Jan 88

[Excerpts] Manama, 13 Jan (WAKH)—The official talks between the Bahraini side led by Deputy Amir Shaykh Hamad ibn 'Isa Al Khalifah and the Egyptian side led by President Muhammad Husni Mubarak were held in Manama today. [passage omitted] Following the talks, the Bahraini foreign minister stressed that the talks were permeated by a cordial atmosphere and characterized by a frankness and understanding which reflected the historic ties between the two countries and relations marked by a common objective and destiny.

He added that the talks were constructive and useful and that the two sides' viewpoints were identical on all issues discussed whether on the level of bilateral relations, Gulf issues, and Arab and Islamic concerns or on the level of international issues of mutual interest to both sides in general. The foreign minister added: The talks between President Husni Mubarak and the Bahraini deputy amir will contribute to promoting relations between the two fraternal countries and peoples in the interest of bilateral cooperation and Arab and Islamic issues.

The foreign minister added that foremost among the issues discussed was the Palestine question in light of the Palestinian people's all-encompassing uprising against the Israeli occupation in the occupied territory. He said the two sides had agreed to support the uprising through all available means, reactivate Arab action to protect the unarmed Palestinian citizens from the Israeli authorities' repression and terrorism, and intensify action in the international arena to put the Palestine question at the threshold of a just, lasting, and comprehensive solution that will guarantee the Palestinian people's legitimate rights in their homeland.

The Bahraini foreign minister pointed out that among the issues taking a prominent position in the talks between the two sides were the situation in the Gulf region and the consequences of the Iraq-Iran war for the region and pan-Arab security. Both sides' views were identical on the seriousness of this war which has

exhausted the resources of the two warring countries, weakened the Gulf security structure, threatened the freedom of navigation in Gulf waters, and created an atmosphere of regional tension that necessitates the intensification of efforts to stop this serious war.

The two sides called on Iran to join Iraq in accepting the option of a peaceful solution in accordance with the principles of Islam, the interests of the two parties and the region, and the unanimity of international will. The two sides agreed to support the efforts being exerted to implement UN Security Council Resolution 598 to put an end to the war and restore security and stability to the region.

The Bahraini foreign minister said the talks centered on the spheres of joint Arab action. The two sides expressed absolute belief in the importance of consolidating Arab solidarity to tackle our fateful issues within a framework of joint Arab responsibility. Within this orientation, the two sides expressed a commitment to exert the utmost effort to develop a collective, sincere Arab position capable of confronting the dangers and challenges facing our nation, especially at this critical stage in our nation's history. More than ever before this stage needs an overall and effective Arab move to enhance our issues and achieve our pan-Arab objectives for strength and progress.

The foreign minister said it was natural that bilateral cooperation was given a great deal of consideration to enhance and promote this cooperation. The two sides expressed a strong desire to continue to boost the spheres of bilateral cooperation on all levels to benefit the two fraternal peoples, contribute toward entrenching the roots of bilateral relations, and consolidate brotherly contacts on official and popular levels.

He said during the talks his highness the Bahraini deputy amir expressed appreciation for President Muhammad Husni Mubarak's sincere pan-Arab stands in his continued endeavor to serve the supreme pan-Arab interests. His highness the deputy amir praised the Egyptian role in consolidating Egypt's Arab relations and honoring its principles in terms of asserting the bases of joint Arab action in the service of the Arab nation's interests.

The Egyptian president invited his brother His Highness Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah to visit Egypt. His highness the deputy amir welcomed this invitation and promised to visit as soon as possible.

Leaves for Muscat 13 Jan

JN131302 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1214 GMT
13 Jan 88

[Text] Manama, 13 Jan (WAKH)—Egyptian President Husni Mubarak left Manama for Muscat at noon today after a short visit to Bahrain within his current tour of

the GCC states. His Highness Shaykh Hamad ibn 'Isa Al Khalifah, deputy amir of Bahrain, led those who saw the Egyptian president off upon his departure.

Also present were the ministers; senior Bahraini officials; Yusuf Rahmah al-Dawsari, chief of the amiri court; and Mahmud Muhammad Abu Zayd, Egyptian ambassador to Bahrain.

During the visit the Egyptian president held talks with the deputy amir on bilateral relations, ways to strengthen them, developments in the Gulf and Arab regions, and general international issues.

Kuwait

Foreign Minister Evaluates Mubarak Visit

LD121524 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic
1000 GMT 12 Jan 88

[Text] Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir has stressed the importance of Arab solidarity as an effective means of compelling others to respect the Arab nation. He said that the talks held between the amir and his brother, President Husni Mubarak, were conducted within this framework.

Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad, speaking in a statement to a radio and television correspondent following President Muhammad Husni Mubarak's departure, expressed his hope that the visit would be a good opportunity for more advanced and more developed relations between the two sisterly countries in the interest of both peoples. He also said that the Arab nation, when united, will gain the respect of other states big and small alike as happened in 1973.

Letter to UN Denies Iranian Allegations

LD130054 Kuwait KUNA in English 1801 GMT
12 Jan 88

[Text] United Nations, Jan 12 (KUNA)—Kuwait Tuesday categorically rejected the latest Iranian allegations of Iraqi violations of Kuwaiti air space. Moreover, the new charges refer to allegations dating back to as far as last September. Muhammad Sa'd al-Sallal [name as received] said in a letter to the secretary-general, Javier Perez de Cuellar.

"Kuwait regrets deeply that Iran is continuing to repeat those unfounded accusations against it when Kuwait has already denied them repeatedly on various occasions," the letter said.

"Iran's insistence on repeating these accusations at a time when the world is wishing and hoping that the efforts made by the secretary-general and the Security Council will succeed in putting an end to this tragic war reflects Iran's negative attitude towards those efforts and

also that country's veiled intentions of pursuing its unjustified acts of aggression against Kuwait and the other countries of the region," the letter said.

The letter expressed surprise that Iran had sent a letter containing these allegations to the secretary-general and ask him to distribute them as official documents before the state concerned had even received them. "Kuwait has in fact received none of the aforesaid notes and the Iranian Embassy in Kuwait has confirmed that it has sent none of the three notes to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Kuwait," the letter said.

The three Iranian notes were contained in a document addressed to the secretary-general on January 7. In it, Iran protested against Kuwait's alleged cooperation with Iraq and warned Kuwait would have to bear "full responsibility" for these actions.

The Kuwaiti letter also pointed to inaccuracies and technical and geographical errors which it said "will deceive no one." To cite only two, one of the notes said an Iraqi Mirage fighter jet made an emergency landing on Kuwait's "Bubiyan" Island "when everyone knows there is no airfield on that island." Another note states an Iraqi plane flying at a very high speed (1,200 miles) and at an altitude of 60,000 feet (18,300 meters) entered Kuwait airspace at 1221 hours and disappeared into Iraqi air space at 1250 hours.

"This would mean that the plane took over 29 minutes to make the incursion into Kuwaiti air space of which it is accused, when everyone knows that a plane flying at such speed would take only a matter of seconds to cross that section of Kuwait's air space," the letter said.

"The above facts show that Iran's intention in transmitting these notes is to continue to create difficulties in its relations with its neighbours and to justify its regrettable position, which is incompatible with the world's desire for peace and with the efforts that Kuwait has made and continues to make to maintain good-neighbourly relations with Iran and brotherly, friendly relations with its neighbouring Muslim people," the letter said.

Oman

Court Says Egypt's Mubarak To Visit 13-14 Jan

JN121454 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic
1300 GMT 12 Jan 88

[Text] of statement issued by the office of the Sultani Court on Egyptian President Husni Mubarak's visit to Oman; date and place not given]]

[Text] To crown the existing excellent relations binding the Sultanate of Oman to the Arab Republic of Egypt and to bolster the ties of friendship binding the Omani people to the Egyptian people, His Excellency President Muhammad Husni Mubarak of the Arab Republic of Egypt will pay an official visit to the Sultanate during the

period extending from Wednesday, 13 January, to Thursday, 14 January 1988. His Majesty Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id will head those welcoming his excellency the Egyptian president.

PDRY

Agreements Signed With USSR on Oil, Gold

EA112103 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic
1500 GMT 11 Jan 88

[Text] This afternoon a contract on the overall development of the oilfields in (Ayyad al-Gharb) and (Amal), and another contract for building an oil pipeline were signed at the Ministry of Energy and Minerals. On the basis of these two contracts, preparations will be complete for setting up oil installations for the first phase of the oil pipeline, which is 210-230 km in length, as well as the building of the central oil complex.

The agreement was signed on behalf of the Yemeni side by Brother Muhammad Abduh Rajih, director of the Department of Oil Exploration, and on behalf of the Soviet side by Comrade (Tarakanov), deputy head of Tsvetmetpromexport. The signing ceremony was attended by Brother Salih Abu Bakr ibn Husaynun, member of the Central Committee, deputy prime minister, and minister of energy and minerals, and by Comrade Albert Rachkov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR ambassador in Aden.

Meanwhile, a contract was signed today between the Department of Geology and Mineral Exploration and the Soviet (Daryubek Geologiya). On the basis of this contract, Soviet experts will study and evaluate the gold mineral [tamadunat al-dhahab] in the (Shtubah) area, in (Dishan), in the Province of Mudiya, Abyan Governorate. Work will begin in the first quarter of this year and will continue for a period of 3 years. This will include geological and geophysical work, mineral testing, excavation, and the conducting of different laboratory analyses with the aim of economic evaluation of gold and other minerals in a 40 square km area.

The contract was signed on behalf of the Yemeni side by Brother 'Uthman Numan Ahmad, director of the Department of Geology and Mineral Exploration, and on behalf of the Soviet side by Comrade (Vasaliy Daniya), deputy to the director general of (Zaryud) Association in the USSR.

It is worth noting that the two contracts come within the framework of the general agreement on the overall development of the oilfields discovered in the Snabwah Governorate which was signed in July 1987 between our country and the USSR.

Outgoing Iranian Envoy Talks With Minister

LD122311 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1630 GMT 12 Jan 88

[Text] The ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran to Aden, at the close of his term of office, met and conferred with Salim Muhammad Jibran, member of the Political Bureau and minister of fisheries of South Yemen, this morning. Current issues relating to the region, the imposed war, bilateral relations, and support for the uprising of the Muslim people of Palestine were reviewed and discussed.

Salim Muhammad, while stressing the expansion of bilateral relations, referred to the U.S. military presence in the Persian Gulf region. He said: Our stance is clear on this matter—the U.S. military presence deprives the region of order and security. The United States must leave the region.

Qatar

Reportage on Visit to Doha by Egypt's Mubarak

Official Talks Begin 12 Jan

NC122107 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic
1830 GMT 12 Jan 88

[Text] Official talks between Egypt and Qatar, chaired jointly by President Mubarak and Qatari Amir Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani, were held in Al-Rayyan Palace in Doha this evening.

An official source in Doha has stated that the talks, which were conducted in a friendly spirit, centered on the main issues of concern to both Arab and Islamic nations. The two countries reviewed developments in the region in light of the continuing war between Iran and Iraq, the two Islamic neighboring countries. They stressed the importance of ending this destructive war. They stated that the war is exhausting Islamic potential which should be combined with other Arab and Islamic efforts to serve fateful pan-Arab issues, foremost among which is the Palestinian cause. Islamic financial resources should also be used in the service of development projects in the Arab and Islamic countries.

The two countries emphasized the need to pursue Arab and Islamic efforts and support international efforts aimed at ending the conflict between the two countries peacefully, in accordance with UN Security Council Resolution 598, urging Iran to commit itself to respecting and implementing this resolution.

The discussions also focused on the Palestinian issue. The two countries praised the courageous Palestinian uprising in the West Bank and Gaza Strip and affirmed their full support for this uprising and their readiness to back it in every way. They renewed the call for an international conference for peace in the Middle East under UN auspices, with the participation of the parties

concerned with the Middle East crisis, including the PLO, and of the permanent members of the UN Security Council. Egypt and Qatar stressed the great importance of achieving comprehensive Arab solidarity.

The two countries also discussed the Lebanese problem, asserting their support for Lebanon and condemning Israeli occupation of its territory. They stressed that the solution to the Lebanese crisis lies with the Lebanese brothers, who should overlook their disputes and unify their ranks. This is the ideal approach to settling the problems hampering a solution. The two countries also discussed bilateral relations and ways of developing and promoting them in all spheres.

Our radio correspondents in Qatar have learned that Mubarak and Khalifah, the two leaders, will resume their talks tomorrow morning, Wednesday, prior to President Mubarak's departure from Doha for Manama, the Bahraini capital.

'Senior Source' on Talks

JN122048 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1950 GMT
12 Jan 88

[Text] Doha, 12 Jan (WAKH)—Official talks were held in Doha this evening between the Qatari side led by His Highness Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani, amir of Qatar, and the Egyptian side led by President Muhammad Husni Mubarak. The talks were attended on the Qatari side by Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz ibn Khalifah Al Thani, finance and oil minister; Shaykh Ahmad ibn Sayf Al Thani, minister of state for foreign affairs and chief of the honor mission accompanying the Egyptian president; 'Isa Ghanim al-Kuwari, information minister; and the Qatari charge d'affaires in Cairo.

On the Egyptian side, the talks were attended by Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; Dr 'Atif Muhammad 'Ubayd, minister of Cabinet affairs and minister of state for administrative development; Dr Usamah al-Baz, first under secretary of the Foreign Ministry and head of the president's office for political affairs; and 'Isam al-Din Hawwas, Egypt's ambassador in Doha.

A senior source told QNA that the talks were held in an atmosphere in which a spirit of genuine fraternity prevailed. The talks dealt with the major issues concerning the Arab and Islamic nation, the source added.

The senior source said the two sides reviewed regional developments in light of the continuation of the war between the two Muslim neighbors, Iran and Iraq. The two sides affirmed the need to end this war which is exhausting the Islamic resources that must be used together with other Arab and Islamic resources to serve pan-Arab issues, particularly the Palestinian cause. Arab and Islamic resources should also be used to give

momentum to Arab and Islamic development programs to help the Arab and Islamic peoples follow the march of progress and prosperity in all fields.

The two sides also affirmed the need to continue Arab and Islamic efforts and to support international endeavours to end the conflict between the two countries through peaceful means in accordance with Security Council Resolution 598. They called on Iran to respect and implement this resolution.

The source said the two sides focused their attention on the Palestinian issue during their talks. They highly praised the courageous Palestinian uprising in the West Bank and Gaza, which has entered its 2d month of fighting the Israeli occupation and resisting its coercion and brutality. The two sides affirmed their full support for this uprising and their readiness to support it in all ways. They reiterated their call for convening an international peace conference on the Middle East under UN auspices to be attended by the parties to the Arab-Israeli conflict, including the PLO, and in which the Security Council permanent members will participate.

The source continued: In their talks the Qatari and Egyptian sides stressed the extreme importance of achieving comprehensive Arab solidarity, which is considered the sharpest weapon in the Arab nation's struggle to confront the dangers and challenges surrounding it at this delicate stage in its history, and to achieve the sublime pan-Arab objectives.

With regard to Lebanon, the source said it has had the share it deserves in the talks. The two sides emphasized their support for Lebanon and condemned the Israeli occupation of its territory which represents aggression against its sovereignty. They also asserted that resolving the Lebanese crisis can be achieved by settling Lebanese differences and closing Lebanese ranks since this is the best way to settle the problems obstructing the achievement of a solution.

The source noted that the two sides paid special attention to fraternal relations between Qatar and Egypt, ways to promote and deepen these relations in various fields, and methods to deepen cooperation between the two countries and their peoples toward broader horizons.

Mubarak Departs for Manama

JN130854 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0840 GMT
13 Jan 88

[Text] Doha, 13 Jan (WAKH)—Egyptian President Husni Mubarak left Doha today for Manama following a 2-day visit to Qatar. Qatari Amir His Highness Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani headed those who saw him off.

Saudi Arabia

Crown Prince on Gulf War, Other Issues

JN130801 Kuwait ARAB TIMES in English
11 Jan 88 pp 1, 4

[By Ahmad al-Jarallah]

[Text] The crown prince and first deputy premier, Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, has said he believes the Gulf war is nearing an end. In an exclusive interview with the ARAB TIMES, he also said: "If it does not come to an end officially in 1988, it will at least be practically over." In the interview given in Casablanca, Morocco, the Saudi crown prince expressed his opinion on the Iraq-Iran war as well as on other Arab issues. Prince 'Abdallah said that Iran would not invade the Gulf states because "it is unable to do that."

Incapable [subhead]

He added that besides lacking in arms Iran is incapable of achieving a general military mobilisation. He said: "When Iran calls upon its people to volunteer, it does not get the necessary response." He added that three years ago, when Iran called for volunteers, 400,000 responded, but two years ago, when they called for volunteers, only 200,000 responded. Last year, only 30,000 responded. He said: "This indicates that the people of Iran are fed up with the war and do not want it."

'Abdallah emphasised that though Iran is incapable of invading any Gulf state and the GCC states are capable of defending themselves, yet the member states must cooperate as Iran still refuses to accept peace and continues the war.

The Saudi crown prince, speaking about his visit to Cairo, said that Egypt "is and will remain very important to Arabs, Islam and Muslims." He said that Saudi Arabia's relations with Egypt were not based on interests or governed by situations but were a "link of brotherhood."

He added: "I was very pleased with the atmosphere of frankness I found during my discussions with Egyptian officials." He commented further that he had been pleased with the reason and logic of the Egyptian leadership headed by President Husni Mubarak.

In addition to Egypt, 'Abdallah also visited Iraq, Jordan, and Syria, after the Amman summit. Commenting on the tour, he said it was undertaken to follow up the implementation of the decisions of the summit which had succeeded in establishing that the Arab world would not pass through an atmosphere of disunity which had prevailed prior to the summit. He said: "All Arab countries must cooperate when necessary in order to respond to the challenges that face our nation."

The Saudi crown prince said that when he visited Damascus and Baghdad, both the countries were determined to make him feel comfortable about the conference and trust between them. He added that the explanation of both countries as to ways they are restoring their relations was logical. He said: "It is a grave mistake to even think that a country in the Arab world can live alone without cooperating with other Arab countries."

Successful [Subhead]

Speaking about the summit, the crown prince said that the Amman summit was successful because of the objectivity of the participants in dealing with the issues. He added that they had avoided secondary issues to discuss the main concerns and the leaders heavily felt the international situations surrounding them and "responded to the ambitions of the Arab nation."

Prince Abdallah said that all these factors made the summit resolutions practical. He emphasised that frank meetings are the most efficient solution to present day problems and that this had been achieved at the Amman summit.

Prince 'Abdallah indicated that further conferences should be held annually to discuss Arab concerns in a direct way. He said: "Before the Amman summit we were feeling that the disagreement in the Arab world had lowered Arab dignity and distorted our image in the world." He added that this made the Arab world a target for those with ambitions in the region such as Israel and Iran.

Trip [subhead]

The crown prince commented on his trip to America and the attitude toward Arab issues, saying: "Israel is active there with well-known methods." He added that if only one cent from each barrel of oil produced in the Arab world was allocated for the purpose of making the world understand Arab causes, miracles could happen even within five to 10 years. He elaborated, saying, "If this sum is provided and supervised by well-qualified Arab youth, it will create the real channel through which we will be able to help decision-makers in the world to be just in dealing with Arab causes."

'Abdallah said that crying, criticising and requesting will lead to nothing. "I personally arrived at other convictions of what the Arab world should do to defeat those forces working to distort the Arab image in the world," he said.

Regarding the eighth GCC summit conference in Riyadh, he said that the same frankness which prevailed at the Amman summit was present at the Riyadh summit. He said that the success of the GCC conference was

due to the fact that it was held amid conditions that required decisive, collective and strong solutions in order for "our patience not to be interpreted as weakness."

Concerning the establishment of links among the GCC people, Prince 'Abdallah said that the GCC states had made good progress in this area, but he added: "The people demand more from us and there is no harm in this for it is the demand of the people and it will one day be achieved."

Moving to matters of local economic concern, 'Abdallah said that the Saudi economy was in "very good shape". He added: "We have overcome some difficulties, the most important of which is the adaptation of the people to the new expenditure policy."

He explained that the people in the past were accustomed to huge expenditures, which, he said, were all right when huge revenues were available. He added that during the past three years people have begun to adapt to the reasonable expenditure rates.

Trend [subhead]

He said that last year witnessed a boost in the Saudi economy and that this trend was expected to continue this year. He explained that Saudi Arabia was not an oil country only and that studies indicate that other mineral resources such as gold, silver, copper and uranium will produce revenues equal to that of oil.

He said that a production company will be established soon, in partnership with the Saudi Government, and a number of American companies will be given concession rights to operate in a 1,600 square kilometre area.

"Shares will be offered in Saudi Arabia and the Gulf," Prince 'Abdallah said, "and experts estimate that its revenues may be equal to that of oil." He emphasised that the Saudi economy stands on the same foundation as any other well established economy: agriculture, industry and trade.

He said that in the agricultural field, Saudi Arabia has become an exporting country. He added that the Saudi industrial base was expanding and that commercially they have an internal market with a huge purchasing power.

Finally, the crown prince said that under the direction of King Fahd, Saudi Arabia's economy is well established and that many countries deal with them in confidence [as published] because of the strength of the economy.

Riyadh Notes Reaction to Khomeyni Decree

LD121158 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic
1130 GMT 11 Jan 88

[Text] Some high-ranking officials in the Iranian regime have described as un-Islamic and contrary to the Constitution a decree issued by Khomeyni 2 weeks ago stipulating the closure of mosques and preventing people from performing pilgrimage.

News agencies cited people living in Tehran who said that Khomeyni's decree caused embarrassment to those who call themselves religious officials. The news agencies pointed out that some known people among the so-called religious officials, including Hoseyn 'Ali Montazeri, Khomeyni's appointed successor since 1985, only made hints in attacking the decree.

Tehran residents said that the public reproach which Khomeyni addressed to President 'Ali Khamene'i last Thursday was meant to silence religious officials, described as unknown, who openly attacked that decree.

It is reported that Khomeyni had issued a decree on 25 December 1987 granting absolute power in matters of religious legislation to the Musavi government without reference to parliament.

UPI reported that Khomeyni had explained last Thursday that the government is also allowed to close mosques and cancel religious contracts unilaterally and to prevent people from performing pilgrimage if appropriate.

United Arab Emirates

USSR's Karen Brutents Ends Four-Day Visit

LD121601 Kuwait KUNA in English 1500 GMT
12 Jan 88

[Text] Abu Dhabi, Jan 12 (KUNA)—A personal envoy of Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev today concluded a four-day visit to the United Arab Emirates and left for home via Cairo. The visit to Abu Dhabi by deputy head of the Foreign Relations Bureau of the Soviet Communist Party Central Committee, Karen Brutents, came at the end of a tour of Syria, Egypt and Kuwait to brief officials there on results of the recent Soviet-U.S. summit held last month in Washington.

In this context, Brutents conveyed a verbal message from Gorbachev to UAE President Zayid ibn Sultan Shaykh Al Nuhayyan which also included current developments in the region and other international questions of mutual interest in addition to bilateral ties and means of promoting them.

In statements during the visit, the Soviet envoy expressed Moscow's interest in developing these relations, which, Brutents described, are still at the early stage, starting by trade and economic ties and then

political exchange. The Soviet Union and the UAE exchanged diplomatic relations at ambassadors level for the first time in November 1985.

The envoy also underlined in statements made here that his country's policy in the region is based on the principle of mutual respect and non-interference in other's internal affairs.

Brutents said that the current Palestinian uprising has put Israel's policy in a fiasco, describing Israel's policy towards the Arab population and its insistence to cling to occupied lands as unrealistic and injurious even to her.

On the conflict in the Gulf, the official renewed Moscow's interest in ending the Iraq-Iran war and call for replacing foreign fleets in Gulf waters by a U.N. naval force to defuse tensions in the region.

Asked on the Afghan situation, Brutents reiterated that his country's decision to withdraw from Afghanistan is final and not tactical and hinted that the withdrawal will be made during this year.

Official, Iranian Envoy View Regional Situation

*JN121448 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1400 GMT
12 Jan 88*

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 12 Jan (WAKH)—Sayf Sa'id Sa'id, director of the Foreign Ministry's GCC Countries Affairs Department, met here today with Mostafa Haeri-Fumani, Iranian ambassador to the UAE. They reviewed the current regional developments and the results of Sa'id's visit to Tehran on Sunday. During the visit, he conveyed a message from Rashid 'Abdallah, minister of state for foreign affairs, to Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati on continuing dialogue between the GCC states and Iran on all issues which concern the two sides.

Tariq 'Aziz Receives U.S. Congressmen 12 Jan
JN121452 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1300 GMT
12 Jan 88

[Text] Baghdad, 12 Jan (INA)—Tariq 'Aziz, Iraqi deputy prime minister and foreign minister, today met with Robert Torricelli and Mel Levine, members of the Europe and the Middle East Subcommittees [of the committee on Foreign Affairs] of the U.S. House of Representatives. They reviewed the situation in the Arabian Gulf, developments in the continuous Iranian aggression against Iraq, and ways to implement Security Council Resolution 598 calling for an end to the war and achieving peace.

Reportage on Gulf War Combat Activities

Communique No 2,984

JN121744 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic
1700 GMT 12 Jan 88

[Communique No 2,984 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 12 January]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. With the victory of God, who supports our loftiness and disappoints the Khomeyniites, our victorious Armed Forces have continued to destroy the criminals, defeat the aggression, and safeguard our people's security, dignity, and sovereignty. The following is a roundup of our units' activities for last night and today:

1. As announced in the military spokesman's statement issued last night, our heroic Air Force attacked a very large maritime target near the Iranian coast at 1900 [1600 GMT] last night. After scoring a destructive blow, the brave hawks returned with their planes safely and victoriously to base in God's care and protection.

2. Our units in the I Army Corps northern sector pounded enemy units opposite them, achieving the following: 16 scoundrels killed; 1 tank, 3 infantry positions, and 1 observation post destroyed; 4 vehicles, 1 of them large, damaged; and 1 mortar destroyed.

3. In the II Army Corps central sector, one enemy soldier was killed, one medium machinegun was destroyed, and one ammunition dump was blown up.

4. In the III Army Corps sector east of Al-Basrah, three infantry positions were destroyed and one ammunition dump was blown up.

5. Our formations in the IV Army Corps sector east of Maysan inflicted the following losses on the aggressors: 17 enemy soldiers killed and 6 infantry positions, 1 observation post, 1 heavy machinegun, and a 120mm mortar destroyed.

6. In the VI Army Corps sector east of the Tigris, one infantry position and four enemy machineguns were destroyed.

7. In the VII Army Corps sector, three infantry positions and a machinegun emplacement were destroyed and two vehicles, one of them large, were burned and destroyed.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 12 January 1988

Claims of Fighting Denied

JN131213 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1120 GMT
13 Jan 88

[Text] Baghdad, 13 Jan (INA)—An Iraqi military spokesman has categorically denied Iranian allegations on fighting in the Mandaliyah base for the Popular Army, which they said is 150 km deep in Iraqi territory. The spokesman also denied any fighting in the areas of Al-'Amadiyah, Shaqlawah, Dayr Zawr [name as received], and Kani Masi, as Iran claims.

In a statement to INA today, the spokesman said that any man with reason will realize that the Iranian forces could not penetrate 1 meter into the Iraqi defenses in the past months' battles. Therefore, this force is completely unable to penetrate this far into Iraqi territory. The spokesman added: If the Iranians have actually penetrated this far into Iraqi territory, then we challenge them to define their whereabouts.

The spokesman added: We just urge the world to recall the Iranian claims a few months ago on their penetration of tens and sometimes hundreds of kilometers inside Iraqi territory, and to the village of Kani Masi in particular, and how the world realized at the time these claims were baseless and false. When the Iranians once again talk about a new recapture of Kani Masi, then they themselves know they are lying. Those who know the geography of the area also should know how far Al-'Amadiyah, which is part of the Dahuk Governorate, is from Shaqlawah, which is in the Irbil Governorate, and from Kirkuk, which is hundreds of kilometers from both cities.

The spokesman stressed that this shows the Iranians' political and military bankruptcy. He said: Anyone who believes these claims must be a trivial person. The Iranians did not even look at the map and, more likely, they do not know what a map is.

Concluding his statement, the spokesman said the security situation is stable in the northern areas adjacent to Iran. He said the news media representatives will visit these areas to see for themselves that the Zafar operations are not military operations but merely a propaganda operation.

Recent Iranian Losses Noted

JN131426 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1323 GMT
13 Jan 88

[Text] Baghdad, 13 Jan (INA)—Formations from the Iraqi Armed Forces destroyed six Iranian infantry positions in the sectors of operation in the past 24

hours. Three of the positions were in the VII Army Corps sector on the southern front. A military spokesman told INA this afternoon that six Iranians were killed, one machinegun emplacement was destroyed, and one ammunition dump was blown up.

Further Reports on UN's Goulding Visit, Talks

More on Talks With Rabin

TA121840 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
1800 GMT 12 Jan 88

[Excerpts] Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin says there is a lot of talk about human rights and the refugees, but the international community has done very little for them. Rabin told visiting UN Under Secretary General Marrack Goulding that Israel has suggested more than once that Western countries take up rehabilitation projects for the refugee camps, but none of them had ever accepted this. The UN envoy met the defense minister in Tel Aviv after both of them had made separate visits to the Gaza Strip today. More from reporter Alan Ben-'Ami:

[Begin recording] [Passage omitted] [Ben-'Ami] This is how Goulding described the visit when he met Defense Minister Rabin in Tel Aviv later.

[Goulding] There was a row of burning barrels. Beyond that there was quite a large crowd. I saw several hundred people. We sent one car forward and they said we were welcome to go in, but he reported back to us that they were in a very excited state from the incidents earlier in the day and we took the decision that if we went on there was a risk of a confrontation developing, and I have made clear throughout that the last thing we want to do is to provoke any confrontation.

[Ben-'Ami] In Gaza, Goulding had talks with former Mayor Rashad al-Shawwa and later with a group of local lawyers. All talked gloomily about the situation in the area and asked for UN help to try and solve the problems. The UN envoy also faced a demonstration by some 50 local UNRWA workers decrying Israel's actions in the Gaza Strip and blaming the UN organization and Arab countries for ignoring them for 40 years. [passage omitted]

Goulding said he had picked up some ideas from his visit which he would put in a report for the Security Council, but he wouldn't give any details. In Tel Aviv, he met for 1 hour with Defense Minister Rabin who himself visited Gaza today for top-level military consultations involving the deputy chief of staff and the head of Southern Command. Goulding said afterwards that Rabin had explained Israel's policies to him, while the UN official outlined UN concerns about those policies. The defense minister, I have learned, told Mr Goulding that he did not consider recent Security Council resolutions against Israel to be relevant or binding. He was meeting with Goulding, he said, solely in Goulding's role as a UN official with responsibilities in the area.

The defense minister spoke scathingly about the lack of international help for the refugees. There was a lot of talk about human rights and the refugees, Rabin said, but in fact individual countries had done very little for them

and ignored repeated Israeli suggestions that countries take on individual camps for rehabilitation. Israel would not have interfered, he said, but no one ever took up the offer. [end recording]

Goulding 'Wary' of Treatment

TA130739 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST
in English 13 Jan 88 p 1

[Report by the diplomatic correspondent]

[Text] UN Under Secretary-General Marrack Goulding was wary of Israel's recent negative experience with visiting officials when he told Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres on Monday that he wished to visit refugee camps in the Gaza Strip. "My name is not David Mellor," he said.

When Peres said that a visit to a Gaza refugee camp might not be advisable now, Goulding replied that the authorities should not be concerned because he was not seeking to attract media attention. He then referred to the uproar caused last week by Mellor, the British minister of state for foreign affairs who harshly criticized Israel's policies in Gaza and publicly upbraided an IDF officer.

Prime Minister Shamir, interviewed yesterday on British Channel 4 television news, said he was "glad" Mellor's visit was over, and added: "It was unacceptable behaviour, but I hope that it won't have an impact on relations with Britain."

'Major Riots' During Rafah Visit

TA131119 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
1100 GMT 13 Jan 88

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] This is an update which has just come in. Our correspondent reports that major riots broke out in the Rafah refugee camp when UN Under Secretary General Marrack Goulding arrived there. The man was forced to leave the site quickly, along with his entourage.

500 Reportedly Riot in Rafah

TA131245 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1200 GMT 13 Jan 88

[Text] Some 500 local inhabitants rioted in the refugee camp in Rafah this morning and threw stones at an IDF armored vehicle. All this took place during the visit of UN Under Secretary General Marrack Goulding. Goulding conferred with physicians in the refugee camp. Military sources told our correspondent Arye Gus that the refugee camp in Rafah had been completely quiet until Goulding arrived.

Editorial on Goulding Visit

TA101153 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT
in Hebrew 10 Jan 88 p 2

[Editorial: The United Nations and the Riots]

[Text] The riots in the Gaza Strip and in Judea and Samaria resumed yesterday.

The reasons they take place have not changed, but this time it seems they are meant to impress UN Under Secretary Marrack Goulding who arrived in Israel yesterday in order to report, according to the UN Security Council resolution adopted 2 weeks ago, on the "measures necessary to defend the civilian population in the territories."

The rioters learned to appreciate the importance of their image in world public opinion.

Proof of that is the "shows" they are "spontaneously" staging every time media representatives or overseas guests turn up, as was the case with a delegation of U.S. senators over the weekend.

They will probably try to put on an appropriate "performance" for the UN guest as well.

There is nothing new about the international organization's attitude toward us, but Israel is a member of it and cannot change its composition.

The government announced its opposition to the UN Security Council resolutions, but was unable to prevent Goulding's visit.

Since he came already it is pointless to boycott him. We had better talk with him, rather than allow the rioters' stones only "to talk."

The foreign minister has done well in deciding to meet with him to explain the state of affairs as Israel views it.

Peres 'Understanding' of Egypt's 'Sensitivity'

TA131314 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1105 GMT 13 Jan 88

[Text] Vice Prime Minister Shim'on Peres stated today that in the face of the violent riots in the territories, the IDF wants to restore peace and does not want to toughen its conduct. According to the foreign minister, Israel is paying attention to the recent remarks made by Egyptian leaders on this issue. Minister Peres was speaking in the Knesset plenum a short time ago during a debate on Israeli-Egyptian relations. Our correspondent Amnon Nadav reports from the Knesset:

[Begin recording] [Nadav] Speaking about Israeli-Egyptian relations, Knesset Member [MK] Mikha'el Eytan of the Likud attacked Vice Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres who, according to him, came out

in support of the current Egyptian attitude questioning the Camp David accords and demanding the amendment of the Golan Law and the Jerusalem Law. MK Eytan also lashed out against Peres' rejection of the prime minister's proposal regarding the autonomy plan. Amid catcalls between the Likud and the Alignment, the coalition partners, Shim'on Peres put the ball back in Shamir's court by alluding to those who objected to the Camp David accords in the past and are their staunchest advocates today. Referring to Israel's relations with Egypt and the situation in the territories, Minister Peres said:

[Peres] Knesset members, we are definitely concerned about the harsh and unjustified statements in the Egyptian media about the recent events. The IDF does not want to toughen its conduct. It wants to calm down the situation and conducts itself with utmost restraint in the face of violent riots whose nature is known not only to Israel but also to other Arab countries in the Middle East.

At the same time, we pay attention to the Egyptian remarks and occasionally differ with them, while understanding Egypt's sensitivity to what is being done in this field. Egypt, like us, strives for a comprehensive peace with all the countries in the region in order to solve all the pending issues through peaceful means. We take into consideration the emphatic statements made by the Egyptian president and foreign minister about their willingness and readiness to play a constructive role in the peace process. We will definitely examine the possibilities this approach offers. We appreciate that they do not want to destroy the current peace, but rather enhance it and extend it to other areas and spheres.

[Nadav] Ending his remarks, the foreign minister proposed that MK Mikha'el Eytan's motion be struck off the agenda. As a result of the constraints of coalitionary discipline, as Likud Whip MK Yehoshu'a Matza phrased it, the Likud members were forced to vote in favor along with the Alignment members. [end recording]

[Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew at 1230 GMT on 13 January carries a similar report, providing the following addition to Peres' address: "There is only one solution to the Palestinian problem: a political solution, not a military or terrorist solution; not a Palestinian state or a Palestinian army, but a solution of the Palestinian problem within a Jordanian-Palestinian framework. If a second national unity government is established, we will propose real and full autonomy in the first stage of the talks. If another government is established, we will propose additional solutions."]

Peres Efforts To Reactivate Peace Process Noted

TA130749 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST
in English 13 Jan 88 p 1

[Report by diplomatic correspondent Menahem Shalev]

[Text] Foreign Minister Peres sent a verbal message to Egyptian President Husni Mubarak two days ago in which he emphasized Israel's continuing efforts to calm

the situation in the territories and pledged to continue to strive for the advancement of the peace process, THE JERUSALEM POST has learned.

The message was given to Egyptian Ambassador Muhammad Basyuni during a meeting in Jerusalem.

Sources close to Peres said last night that the foreign minister intends to reactivate the peace process in the near future. Peres is expected to contact U.S., Soviet and Egyptian officials and to sound them out on possible ways of advancing the process, which is currently deadlocked over the matter of the international conference.

Peres' adviser, Nimrod Novik, is slated to meet with the deputy chief of the Soviet Foreign Ministry's Middle East section, Vladimir Tarasov, in Helsinki next Monday. Novik is expected to ask about the Soviet's latest position on an international conference and the possible visit of an Israeli consular mission.

Peres on U.S. Vote in UN, Civil Disobedience

TA071710 Tel Aviv Educational Television in Hebrew
1500 GMT 7 Jan 88

[Interview with Shim'on Peres, vice prime minister and foreign minister, by Ilana Dayan; date and place not given—recorded]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] [Dayan] With your permission, I would like to discuss the U.S. vote in the UN Security Council the day before yesterday. It has been said again and again that this is the first time in 6 years that the United States has adopted a stance supporting an anti-Israeli decision. My question is whether in your opinion this marks the end of an era for the U.S. Administration's automatic siding with Israel, or whether it should perhaps be seen in the specific context of deportations against which they warned us?

[Peres] Our relations with the United States have remained as firm as in the past. There are a number of question marks, and in my opinion, a lot depends on how we conduct ourselves in the future. For instance, if by one initiative or another we can renew the peace process, these incidents will surely cast a shadow but will not be a focus of attention in Israel-U.S. relations. If this is the only picture that remains and all U.S. television networks show this only, we will have real problems.

[Dayan] As you see things at the moment, and like me, you know that the political situation in Israel, perhaps also in the United States, does not make a break in the political deadlock possible, not in the foreseeable future at least, do you anticipate a future of real erosion in Israeli-U.S. relations?

[Peres] I do not share your opinion regarding the first part of the question; that is, I am not convinced that nothing can be done. It is surely possible to do something. Just as I earlier thought that not everything can be

solved by the passage of time and a passive stance, today too I am convinced it is possible to act and change matters. I do not see this as a mechanistic, self-driven development.

[Dayan] Still, when you look at the evolution of political processes in our region, you see the continuing rapprochement between Washington and Cairo, and you also see that the United States in fact voted for a Jordanian sponsored proposal the day before yesterday. Do you perhaps notice a process of extra U.S. rapprochement with the moderate part of the Arab world, possibly at the expense of relations with us?

[Peres] The United States has always been close to the moderate side there. I think that our relations with the United States have largely remained the same: in the strategic sphere, in the sphere of basic understanding, in the sphere of friendship. We have a problem in the sphere of the peace process, which did exist even though it did not yield immediate results. The very fact of its existence has turned it into an important part of this policy. It is incumbent on both the United States and us, not only us but also on the United States, to act for the renewal of peace initiatives.

[Dayan] Still, as I can understand from the remarks you have just made, when you look at the overall context you do not attach extra gravity to the U.S. vote, do you?

[Peres] I would not separate this from the context of overall relations. I do not think that this vote in itself harmed relations. I think the television images seen in the United States constitute a very serious test which I do not make light of. I do not think the vote tells the story in its entirety.

[Dayan] In other words, what you are saying is that a lot depends on what we will do, for example if we decide to deport more Palestinians from the territories?

[Peres] I believe that whenever deportations are the issue, the United States will vote against us. The issue is a legal argument now, with the United States maintaining that the Geneva Convention forbids the deportation of individuals, while we claim that it bans mass deportations. We differ over the interpretation of the Convention. Additionally, and let us be honest about it, the Arabs have been accusing the United States of being partial on matters in which Israel is involved, and I believe that there were some Americans who wanted to show that they are not biased. Yet once again, the development of events depends on what will happen.

[Dayan] Which brings me back to the question of whether you might recommend that Israel refrain from carrying out further deportations, and whether the Foreign Ministry differed with the Defense Ministry over how broadly the measure of expulsions should be applied?

[Peres] No, this is imprecise. The Foreign Ministry suggested that nine be deported, and I approved that number.

[Dayan] What if the Defense Ministry suggests that additional people be deported?

[Peres] Then we will discuss the matter, but I do not think that people are so eager to name names. I believe that the description of what took place in the discussions preceding the deportations was greatly exaggerated, which created the impression worldwide that Israel is about to deport masses of people. As a result, many people formed an opinion about the expulsions even before they had any inkling about the number of people involved. Even today, many of those who already have a fixed idea about the situation are unaware of two things: first, that we are operating according to Jordanian law, not Israeli law; and second, that even though expulsion orders have been issued against the individuals in question, they nevertheless have the chance to appeal—at the first stage, to a consultative committee, and then, at the second stage, to the High Court of Justice.

[Dayan] You talked at great length about the complaints that have been heard from various parts of the world. Next week Yosi Beilin, the political director general of the Foreign Ministry, is leaving for Washington. I presume part of his mission will be to conduct an information campaign. In all honesty, Mr Peres, do you feel that the problem lies with our information machinery, or does the problem lie in the policy itself? Can even the best ambassador explain an inexplicable policy?

[Peres] I have always held the belief that the best information campaign is the actual policy. I never thought there could be any information campaign that could alter the face of a policy. I still maintain that view, and indeed over an extended period of time—and I admit that this is partly due to the efforts we have made, and may I also add, my own personal efforts—Israel has enjoyed a very favorable image.

I believe that the incessant nay-saying harms us because even if television portrays the situation in a certain way, there is still an image of Israel constantly striving toward peace. This balances out all the other pictures. This is actually what should be done. I do not accept the view that in the midst of the present discussion we will say—as has been said—that we want direct negotiations. Then, according to this view, when the other side really does join these direct negotiations, we tell them: You had better realize that you will not receive even one inch of land back. What is the point of this? Do we really need this right now?

[Dayan] Mr Peres, I would like to ask you about the old-new move we heard of today: Speaking on behalf of a group of Palestinian leaders, Hanna Sinyurah declared the launching of civil disobedience tomorrow. The first

manifestation will be that the Palestinians will stop buying Israeli cigarettes, to emulate Ghandi's protest at the time. Are you worried about this? Do you think this is serious?

[Peres] First of all, there is a cigarette shortage in Israel at the moment. There are problems with the Dubek cigarette factory. I do not believe that this call will be heeded. As a rule, the extremist call is perceived to be a general exhortation. The important Judea, Samaria, and Gaza mayors have already responded to Sinyurah's call by saying they would not follow it, because the Arabs too face a problem. If they launch a civil disobedience campaign, everyone's life will be miserable. The mayors have the deep fear that Arab inhabitants will emigrate from Israel. This fear is a counterpoint to this call. Usually the first to leave are the richer people with a higher education, which is why I do not believe that under these circumstances civil disobedience is a substantive option. Certainly it provides no inducement for negotiations. What we need is responsible, serious Palestinian leaders who would demonstrate their courage by laying emphasis on and engaging in unconditional negotiations. [passage omitted]

Inner Cabinet 'Stormy Session' on Territories
TA131154 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1105 GMT 13 Jan 88

[Talk between anchorman Arye Golan in the studio and political correspondent 'Oded Ben-'Ami in the Knesset studio—live]

[Text] [Golan] The Inner Cabinet held a stormy session this morning when it met to hear reviews about the situation in the territories from the defense minister, the chief of staff, and the deputy chief of staff. In the eye of the storm were the verbal exchanges between Ministers Peres and Sharon. Our political correspondent 'Oded Ben-'Ami is in our studio in the Knesset.

[Ben-'Ami] Shalom, Arye. The climax came at the end of the Inner Cabinet session in the course of an argument on whether a political solution or negotiations should be favored before calm is restored. Summing up the debate, Defense Minister Rabin said that in his opinion, peace should be restored before entering political negotiations.

Reacting to this, the vice prime minister and foreign minister said: Without a political solution the problem will not be settled. How can one not discuss the political implications of moves such as taking up residence in Jerusalem's Old City? Minister Sharon reacted at once by saying: I moved to Jerusalem because you, Shim'on Peres, wanted to hand the Old City over to Husayn. I moved to the Old City to prevent that. Shim'on Peres to Sharon: You are a liar, and nobody is interested in the lies you concoct with Uri Dan [Sharon's close confidant]. Sharon to Peres: Who is the liar here? Everybody knows, and so do you. Peres to Sharon: Right, I know, you are

the liar. Sharon to Peres: You are the main liar. So much for this argument, which ended in vociferous exchanges between the Inner Cabinet members and brought the session to an end.

Earlier, the Inner Cabinet members heard reviews by Minister Rabin, Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Dan Shomron, and Deputy Chief of Staff Major General Ehud Barak about the activities of the security forces regarding the recent riots in the territories. Several proposals were raised, such as that of Minister Sharon on setting up a small committee made up of four Inner Cabinet members to draw up and formulate a policy on the territories and submit it to the Inner Cabinet for its approval. Minister Sharon asked that the Inner Cabinet vote on his proposal. He supported the proposal. Minister Yitzhaq Moda'i abstained, and the prime minister and other ministers voted against it. Thus the proposal was dropped.

Minister Moda'i also raised a proposal that all workers from the territories be sent to work only through employment offices. This would raise their wages and reduce their bitterness. Minister Moda'i mentioned a method used by the security forces during the riots in 1975, whereby the home of anybody arrested in the course of the riots was emptied of all its furniture. Moda'i suggested that this method be implemented again, because anybody who lived through such an experience actually stopped taking part in the riots.

Minister Sharon made yet another proposal to prevent workers from the territories from driving into Israel in their private vehicles and to establish transportation centers. The defense minister rejected this proposal for fear that these gatherings would turn into violent demonstrations and riots and rekindle the unrest.

[Golan] Were any proposals or decisions accepted at the end of the Cabinet session?

[Ben-'Ami] No decisions were made. A vote was held only on Minister Sharon's proposal to set up a minicabinet which, as noted, was rejected. At the end of the session, the prime minister reiterated his full support for the policy embraced by the security forces. It should be noted that in the Cabinet session on Sunday the chief of staff discussed the policy of imposing curfews on any area or refugee camps where riots take place. These curfews have proved themselves and have been implemented by the security forces in the last few days. Curfews were imposed both yesterday and today in various areas. This is actually the practical expression of the further strengthening of the iron fist policy designed to quell the unrest.

[Golan] Thank you. I would like to tell you that Arye Gus, a veteran correspondent who has been covering the territories for many years, cannot recall the punishment mentioned by Minister Moda'i.

Shamir Set for Bilateral Talks With Palestinians
TA130759 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST
in English 13 Jan 88 pp 1, 3

[Report on an interview with Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir by diplomatic correspondent Menahem Shalev; date and place not given]

[Excerpts] Seizing on a recent interview given by Egyptian President Husni Mubarak, Prime Minister Shamir last night renewed his call for Egypt to negotiate peace on the basis of the Camp David Accords, which, he said, "provide the perfect answer to the current situation."

Shamir, indicating what may be a new direction in Likud thinking, said he "does not object to the idea" of bilateral talks with the inhabitants of the territories on the implementation of the autonomy proposals of Camp David, if Egypt and Jordan refuse to participate. But he added that he was highly doubtful whether such talks could take place, because "the Arabs of Erez Yisra'el never have and never will decide to be the masters of their own fate."

In an interview with THE JERUSALEM POST, Shamir said that he is "constantly turning to Egypt to persuade it" to hold autonomy talks on the basis of the Camp David Accords.

Shamir said he was "very glad to hear what Mubarak had to say," in an interview with the Kuwaiti newspaper "AL-ANBA." "I see it as progress," Shamir added, because he "sees now that Mubarak is not opposed to the Camp David Accords—on the contrary, he sees advantages" in them. [passage omitted]

Shamir said, "I will turn to Mubarak and tell him 'you yourself said that you were sorry that the negotiations were broken off. So let's resume them.'"

Declaring that the Camp David Accords are "accepted by all the parties in Israel," Shamir said nonetheless that they harbour a danger of leading to the establishment of a Palestinian state. "But there are guarantees that this won't happen, such as the fact that Israel will be left in charge of security affairs."

Shamir said that if approached by local Palestinian leaders on possible bilateral talks that do not involve other Arab countries, he would "talk to them, but I am doubtful whether negotiations could be started.

"There is a knowledge of the special character, the mood and the tradition" of the "Arabs of Eretz Yisra'el," Shamir said. "They will not dare to do it without the auspices and agreement of their brothers in Arab countries. This was the situation throughout the years and I believe that this will be the situation now. They are not ready."

The bilateral option "must be examined," Shamir said, but Israel wants the whole Arab world, or at least one country, to be involved in the peace process.

At least one country must be found, and this was the logic behind autonomy talks with Egypt, Shamir said, adding "their delegates said that they represented the Palestinians, even though they had no mandate for this.

"The main thing is that progress must be made, and new adherents to Camp David must be found," Shamir said. "If there is no possibility of an international conference, Egypt, if it is interested in progress in the peace process, will have to choose a different option. And I believe that the Camp David Accords are the most realistic and logical plan."

Further on Continuing Unrest in Territories

Number of Casualties Reported

TA121847 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1830 GMT
12 Jan 88

[Text] Thirty-three residents of the territories were killed in riots in Judeaea, Samaria, and the Gaza Strip since the unrest began exactly 5 weeks ago. Of this number, 23 were residents of the Gaza Strip and 10 of Judeaea and Samaria.

Our military correspondent Alon Ben-David reports that 60 IDF soldiers, 40 Israeli citizens, and 257 inhabitants of the territories were wounded during the riots.

Police Minister Comments

TA121906 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
1800 GMT 12 Jan 88

[Text] Police Minister Hayim Bar-Lev says he believes the situation in the territories will not return to the calm known before the current unrest. Bar-Lev attributes much of the unrest to the dashed hopes of Palestinians for a political solution of the territories. Reporter Steve Rodan interviewed Bar-Lev today and filed this report:

[Begin recording] [Rodan] Police Minister Hayim Bar-Lev says he won't speculate when the current unrest will end, but one thing he does believe: the territories will probably never be as quiet as they were before last month.

[Bar-Lev] Logically, we'll have to be able to deal with situations of public order, and this alone will cause the necessity of a more substantial presence of security forces in the area.

[Rodan] Bar-Lev says the residents of Judeaea, Samaria, and Gaza are more prepared than in the past to strike, demonstrate, or even clash with police.

[Bar-Lev] The fact is that the general public responds to these calls. If you take Mr Hanna Sinyurah, he has called for a boycott of Israeli cigarettes—you don't have people who follow his call, as far as I know. But, if you take the demonstrations and the strikes, it's a fact that you have people. The general public is right and ready to follow such calls, and this is a new phenomenon.

[Rodan] As a result, Bar-Lev and other security officials are not taking any chances. The minister says that the beefed-up presence of security forces and police will probably remain in the territories for quite a while. [end recording]

Curfew Imposed on 6 Camps

TA121947 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew
1900 GMT 12 Jan 88

[Excerpt] A curfew was imposed today on six refugee camps throughout Judeaea and Samaria in the wake of riots. There was a partial commercial strike in some of the major towns, especially in Nabulus.

Two Egged buses were stoned today, one near Hebron and the other in Bethlehem. Nobody was hurt and no damage was caused.

Four wounded local residents were brought to the Nabulus hospital this evening. The IDF is now examining the circumstances of their injury. [passage omitted]

1 Killed in Rafah 12 Jan

TA122045 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 2030 GMT
12 Jan 88

[Text] The man who was killed in Rafah at noon today is Muhammad al-Yazuri, 30, a Rafah resident. An investigation indicates that this man who tried to stab soldiers today was an activist of the radical Islamic Jihad Organization. He was imprisoned for 3 years on charges of having participated in hostile terrorist activity and having been a member of a terrorist organization. He was released from prison about 1 year ago.

Gazan Sentenced to 1 Year

TA130539 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
0500 GMT 13 Jan 88

[Excerpt] A Gaza resident was sentenced to 1 year in prison by a military court for injuring a soldier with a stone. The resident was one of 12 brought yesterday before the military court in Gaza. Nine of the 12 pleaded not guilty and received sentences up to 4 months. [passage omitted]

Food Supplies 'Regular'

TA130624 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0505 GMT 13 Jan 88

[Excerpts] Quiet prevailed in the territories last night. Over the last few days the IDF has arrested agitators responsible for the riots. This morning curfews remain in effect on the refugee camps in 'Askar, Al-'Arrub, 'Ayn Bayt al-Ma', Nur al-Shams, Tulkarm, (Burj Nuysarat), Khan Yunus, Shatti, and Rafah. A blockade remains in force in the Jabalyah refugee camp. [passage omitted]

The Civilian Administration, while widely applying the use of curfews, has gone to great lengths to ensure that those camps under curfew get regular food supplies. [passage omitted]

Curfew on Balatah Camp 13 Jan

TA130713 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0700 GMT 13 Jan 88

[Text] Early this morning the security forces imposed a curfew on the Balatah refugee camp near Nabulus. At present, curfews are in force in 10 refugee camps in the territories and a blockade is in force on another.

Incidents in Gaza; 1 Wounded

TA130950 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0930 GMT
13 Jan 88

[Text] There were several disturbances in the town of Bayt Hanun in the northern part of the Gaza Strip this morning. A local resident was slightly injured by shots fired by IDF soldiers while dispersing a crowd. For the most part, however, quiet prevails in the Gaza Strip. The commercial strike continues and, due to the curfew on eight [as heard] refugee camps, only a small number of workers showed up for work today. The absence of these workers is causing great financial losses to industries in southern Israel which have stopped operating.

Curfews remain in force in four refugee camps in Judaea and Samaria, and the commercial strike is continuing.

Strike in West Bank 13 Jan

TA131249 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1230 GMT
13 Jan 88

[Text] Here is an update from the territories: A curfew has been imposed on the main street of the town of Qalqilyah following disturbances there. A commercial strike is under way in Ramallah, Nabulus, and Janin. Shops were open in Hebron and Bethlehem. Most workers from Judaea and Samaria set out to work in Israel. This is reported by our correspondent in the territories Zohar Melamed.

Curfews on 2 Ramallah Camps

TA131330 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1300 GMT 13 Jan 88

[Text] A curfew was imposed this morning on two refugee camps in the Ramallah area following disturbances. Our correspondent Arye Gus reports that the curfews were imposed on the Qalandiyah and Al-Am'ari refugee camps. A curfew was also imposed on the main street of Qalqilyah.

Prospective Deportee Appeals Representation

TA071540 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1500 GMT 7 Jan 88

[Text] Jibril Rajub, one of the prospective deportees, has appealed to the High Court of Justice against the consultative committee advising the commander of the Central Command, maintaining through his attorney Le'a Tzemel that he had expressed his wish to be represented by 12 attorneys in his appeal against the deportation order. A Shin Bet representative expressed his opposition to this. The president of the Ramallah military court sustained the objection and instructed that only three lawyers represent the appellant. The attorneys left the room and the reasons for the deportation were consequently heard without comment.

Force 17 on PLO Possession of Chemical Weapons

TA122109 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew
1900 GMT 12 Jan 88

[Text] Abu Tayyib, the commander of Fatah's Force 17, threatens that the PLO has chemical weapons and it will not hesitate to use them in future wars. In an interview to a new Arabic-language magazine issued in Cyprus, Abu Tayyib said the PLO has long been interested in chemical weapons.

'Confusion' in Defence Establishment on Unrest

TA110801 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST
in English 11 Jan 88 pp 1, 2

["Analysis" by Hirsh Goodman: "Defence Establishment at a Loss To Deal With Unrest"]

[Text] It has apparently taken Defence Minister Yitzhaq Rabin five weeks to recognize that what we are witnessing in the territories is not a passing phenomenon, but rather one that will require weeks, or even months, before stability is restored. "Don't wait with a stopwatch in hand," the minister told reporters in Gaza yesterday.

Rabin's pessimism is in marked contrast to his predictions last month when he announced his "iron fist" policy. It reflects a growing realization in the defence establishment that the solutions it thought feasible have proven not to be so. Despite the massive military presence, the unprecedented arrests and punitive measures, the riots continue and casualties mount. The world press remains absorbed in the story, despite predictions that

interest would dissipate, and the economic pressures that defence-policy makers believed would bring quiet and normalcy have failed to do so.

"We have realized that there is no magical way of bringing about change quickly or effectively," THE JERUSALEM POST was told by a high-level official last night. "We are dealing with a new phenomenon that we are only beginning to recognize, let alone understand, and I cannot say, despite the continuous consultations going on, that we have any new ideas," he admitted.

The mood in the defence establishment can best be described as one of confusion, even dejection. This mood has been fostered not only by the lack of success and new ideas, but by the fact that the traditional Palestinian leaders in the territories, particularly those close to Jordan, have been unwilling or ineffectual channels for restoring order. "We have no one to speak to on the other side," a defence source said, "and therefore have had to rely completely on operational and deterrent measures."

Initially, it was believed that the riots would subside if casualties could be avoided. The IDF responded by dramatically increasing its physical presence in the territories and simultaneously issuing strict orders detailing when lethal means could be used. But the riots and the casualties continued.

Mass arrests were then initiated as a deterrent and the "troublemakers" whom the security services believed to be behind the riots were rounded up. Yet, despite the 2,000 arrests, the deportation orders and punitive measures, the disturbances gained in intensity. Either new "troublemakers" were blossoming as fast as the old ones were being plucked off the streets, or the wrong people were being detained.

"Our deterrent and operational policy managed to contain the situation on January 1 (the Fatah anniversary)," a senior military source said yesterday. "But that was only one day, and that success has been overtaken by events of the past 10 days," he added.

In addition to an unprecedented show of force, the IDF has also used unprecedented means to try to contain the situation. Helicopters—as many as five being reported over one area at a time—have been used to scatter tear-gas and smoke grenades over crowds of demonstrators. Snipers have been deployed to shoot key provocateurs in the legs. Armoured vehicles have been used to patrol especially troublesome areas. Front-line troops and officers have been deployed in large masses. Road-blocks, curfews and other restrictions on movement have been clamped down as never before. And, most recently, the media have been barred from covering events, with the discretion for allowing access being left to the senior officer present.

"All we can do until something changes is to do more of the same," the military source continued.

As part of "more of the same" the IDF intends, it is understood, to increase the level of collective, rather than individual, punishment in the coming days and to step up arrests.

'Positive Meaning' of U.S. Vote in UN Noted

TA071633 Jerusalem AL-FAJR in Arabic
7 Jan 88 pp 1, 2

[Editorial: "The Security Council Resolution—A New Phase in the Cause's Procession"]

[Text] For the second time in one month the Security Council issued a clear and explicit resolution calling on Israel immediately to cease its measures in the occupied territories and to adhere to the Geneva Convention of 12 August 1949 on the protection of civilians in times of war, which necessarily applies to our occupied territories.

If the first resolution, No 605 issued on 22 December 1987, was approved by a majority of 14 votes over the abstention of the United States, which did not use its veto, the second resolution issued the day before yesterday was passed unanimously and included the U.S. vote. The resolution decisively calls on Israel to refrain from deporting the nine residents from the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, and urged it to respect the obligations imposed by the Geneva Convention on Israel as an occupying power.

Just as this resolution affirmed an obvious comprehensive international resolve to protect the rights of our Palestinian people and provided a suitable opportunity for political efforts to achieve a comprehensive and just peace in the region, Binyamin Netanyahu, Israel's UN representative, immediately announced that his government rejects this resolution and that the Israeli authorities "will continue to act as they see fit." Moreover, this Israeli representative as well as other Israeli officials declared, as was evidently expected, that they were "shocked" by the U.S. position endorsing the resolution.

We welcome this resolution and see in it the opening of a new phase in the procession of the Palestinian cause in the international arena. In this context we particularly note the positive meaning of the U.S. position. We call for a serious follow-up for implementing the resolution so that, despite our deep appreciation for this resolution and for the efforts of all the countries of the world, it will not turn into a mere addition to the pile of UN resolutions concerning the Palestinian problem and the Arab-Israeli conflict in general, having no serious impact or practical effect.

In confronting this accumulation of proclamations, we affirm that to exploit this resolution politically, what is needed is an effective invitation to convene the international conference with the participation of the Security Council's five permanent member states and all the parties concerned, including the PLO on an equal footing, to bring about a just and comprehensive settlement of the Palestinian problem and establish the aspired peace in the region on the basis of UN resolutions and in response to the will of the nations and governments of the world.

Shamir Calls for U.S. Embassy Move to Jerusalem

TA081238 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew
8 Jan 88 p A2

[Report by Gid'on Alon]

[Excerpt] Prime Minister Shamir has said it is time that the United States moved its embassy in Israel from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem. Regarding the U.S. vote against Israel in the UN Security Council Shamir says there was no surprise in this vote, because the United States is against deporting even the leaders of the riots. Shamir believes differences of opinion are a natural thing between friends. "The vote does not indicate a change in U.S. policy," Shamir told Canadian Parliament Speaker John Allen Fraser, who is currently on a visit to Israel. [passage omitted]

Peres Barred From Testifying in Vanunu Trial

TA041547 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1500 GMT 4 Jan 88

[Text] Prime Minister Shamir has issued a document extending an executive privilege that would prevent Vice Prime Minister Shim'on Peres from testifying or even answering questions on five issues related to the Vanunu trial. Mr Peres was to testify in the Vanunu trial in 2 days. The above was reported by our legal affairs correspondent Gil'ad Sher.

Emergency Cable TV Network Planned for North

TA111851 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1800 GMT 11 Jan 88

[Text] The IDF, the Defense Ministry, and the settlements along the confrontation line in the north are working jointly on recommendations to operate a cable television network for the northern border settlements, to be used during security-related incidents.

An ITIM correspondent reports that a simulation exercise for such an incident was carried out in Kibbutz Yiftah recently and a cable television system was operated. The representatives of the settlements watched the exercise to study it and apply it to a similar system in

their settlements. The network transmitted electronic signals with announcements to the owners of television sets in their homes, as well as routine information on developments.

Argentinian Army Commander Arrives on Visit

TA040920 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST
in English 4 Jan 88 pp 1, 2

[Report by defense correspondent Joshua Brilliant]

[Text] Tel Aviv—The commander of the Argentinian army, Gen. Jose Dante Caridi, arrived here yesterday evening for a week's visit during which he will tour IDF bases and military industries.

Dante Caridi's visit follows that of several Latin American army chiefs who visited Israel in the past six months, an IDF source said.

The trip is an expression of President Raul Alfonsin's determination to benefit from Israeli know-how and technology. Dante Caridi is to meet his Israeli counterpart, Rav-Aluf [Lieutenant General] Dan Shomron, as well as the head of the Ground Forces Command, Aluf [Major General] Uri Sagi. Sagi has been a driving force behind the Army's moves to step up coordination between infantry and the armoured, artillery, and engineering corps to form more effective fighting formations.

Argentine and Israeli sources declined to discuss Dante Caridi's shopping list. In the past, according to foreign sources, Israel sold Argentina aircraft, ships and, reportedly, other materiel.

It sold Argentina a local version of the French Mirage V and at least four Dabur class patrol boats. Dr Ze'ev Eytan, of Tel Aviv University's Jaffee Centre for Strategic Studies, cited unconfirmed reports that Israel has also sold Argentina Mirage III's, while Britain complained that Israel had delivered Skyhawk jet fighters during the Falklands war.

Israel may also have sold Argentina Gabriel ship-to-ship missiles, Eytan said.

Rome Embassy Charges Archbishop Violated Accord

TA121909 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
1800 GMT 12 Jan 88

[Text] Israel has charged that Archbishop Capucci is systematically breaking the Vatican accord under which he was released from jail in 1977. He had been imprisoned for smuggling weapons for the PLO. A statement by the Israeli Embassy in Rome said Capucci had repeatedly broken an agreement to stay out of Middle East politics. Last month he staged a hunger strike over disturbances in the territories at the offices of the Arab League in Rome.

Soviet 'Approval' Given to Joint Delegation

JN120935 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic
8 Jan 88 p 1

[Text] AL-ITTIHAD has learned from high-level Arab diplomatic sources that the recent visit of Jordan's King Husayn to Moscow has achieved relative progress regarding the Soviet Union's view of an international conference for peace in the Middle East.

The sources affirmed that Jordan has been given Soviet approval to form a Jordan-PLO delegation as a solution to the issue of Palestinian representation at the conference.

This is in addition to Soviet approval of bilateral talks between the concerned sides at the conference on a geographic basis. The same sources said the Soviet Union maintains a constant stand on an international conference, having a real and effective role.

Official on Israeli Use of 'Poison Gas Bombs'

JN111703 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1450 GMT
11 Jan 88

[Text] Amman, 11 Jan (PETRA)—Dr Ahmad Abu Qurah, president of the Jordanian Red Crescent Society, has called for sending a team of experts to the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip to investigate Israeli soldiers' use of poison gas bombs against citizens there.

In a letter sent today to Cornelio Sommaruga, president of the International Committee of the Red Cross, Dr Abu Qurah said the pregnant woman who was recently martyred in the occupied Arab territories died as a result of the use of such bombs. Dr Abu Qurah pointed out that this violates Articles 16 and 18 of the fourth Geneva Convention, which stipulates that pregnant women should be protected and should not be attacked under any circumstances.

New Cabinet Appointments 'Normal Process'

JN101133 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic
10 Jan 88 pp 1, 22

[Editorial: "The Pillars of Governing"]

[Text] The new ministerial appointments which were introduced in Prime Minister al-Rifa'i's Cabinet yesterday fall within the framework of the process of putting the Jordanian house in order. This process continues to take its course through the initiation of studied steps.

It is a normal process accompanied by a firm commitment to the pillars of governing in our country—pillars formulated and advocated by the homeland's leader. These pillars are built by forging strong cooperation between the executive and legislative authorities, respecting the Constitution, enhancing and developing

the national edifice, and adhering to the belief that our individual is our dearest asset and that he should be the objective of construction and the driving force behind it.

It goes without saying that these very pillars have their pan-Arab dimension in which Jordan takes pride and which characterizes its practices in the Arab arena. There is no doubt that adherence to this dimension in principle and practice has confirmed that Jordan's credibility is a model evoking pride to be emulated throughout the Arab homeland.

Thanks to King Husayn's leadership, the system of governing in our country has built a distinguished character for Jordan based on national cohesion and the prominent position it occupies in Arab and international arenas. These factors had positive effects which are represented on the domestic level by the prevalence of stability, social and economic development, and the continuing development of our Armed Forces. The positive effects of these factors on Arab and international levels are represented by the constructive role being played by Jordan to restore Arab solidarity and enlist further international support for Arab rights.

Thus, governing in this country has remained an arena for unlimited, bountiful offerings and also a field for performing duties similar to all other fields of responsibility in our society. Hence, changing the positions of responsibility will not end the responsibility shouldered by an individual and through which he takes part in building the national and pan-Arab edifice, since this sense of responsibility emanates from his national and pan-Arab sentiments and also because it has become an inseparable part of his personality whether he remains in government or moves to other arenas.

We would like to note the bountiful offerings made and the persistence shown by the Cabinet ministers who left government after spending some time during which they assumed positions of responsibility in this arena. We wish them happiness and success wherever they work in the future.

We also hope the new Cabinet ministers and those who assumed new positions of responsibility in government will make bountiful offerings and score distinguished successes that will allow the process of putting the Jordanian house in order to take its desired course at present and in the future, especially considering that all individuals are soldiers committed to the pursuit of the ideals of the march of well-being led by the homeland's leader. Furthermore, everyone will be more than delighted to offer all of their energies and capabilities to this march with no regard for the position of responsibility they are assuming.

AL-DUSTUR Views Israeli Treatment of Goulding

JN131144 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic
13 Jan 88 pp 1, 23

[Editorial: "On Whom Does Israel Depend in Confronting the United Nations?"]

[Text] Israel treats Marrack Goulding, the UN secretary general's envoy, with negligence, resentment, and arrogance. It prevents him from carrying out the mission assigned to him personally by the UN secretary general. Israel's actions in this regard represent more than impudence and presumption.

The Israeli military authorities prevented the UN assistant secretary general from entering a blockaded Palestinian camp in Gaza. In so doing they are actually sending a message to the United Nations and all its member states of strong disdain for this international organization which had, about 40 years ago, adopted the creation of Israel.

Although Israel is repeating a precedent set by South Africa, which turned its back on the United Nations and world public opinion, the question which poses itself is: On whom does this aggressive state, which is established on other people's territories in the Middle East, depend when it shows all this disdain and contempt for the international community?

No doubt the Tel Aviv rulers feel that they are fully protected by the United States. This is what prompts

them to adopt such stands which lack any moral courage. They take these stands without any fear of UN sanctions or application of the clauses in the UN Charter concerning the states which violate the Charter.

U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz made a statement after the recent Security Council resolution was adopted opposing Israel's decision to deport a number of Palestinian Arabs. This statement perhaps provides ample proof of such full U.S. cover for all Israeli stands and practices, even though the United Nations itself is the target of these stands and practices.

Israel's inappropriate dealing with the UN assistant secretary general shows to what extent Israel will go in its defiance of all international laws and norms. It shows what injustice it does to about 1.5 million Arabs living under the arms of its savage occupation.

This requires an international reconsideration of Israel's membership in all international bodies and organizations, including its membership in the United Nations. No senior UN envoy has ever been treated the way the Israeli authorities treated Goulding in the past few days.

Hamadah Letters, Cordes Photo Published
NC130711 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
0615 GMT 13 Jan 88

[Text] While the trial of Lebanese citizen 'Abbas Hamadah is still in progress in the West German city of Dusseldorf, the kidnappers of FRG hostage Rudolf Cordes have published in Beirut passages from letters which they attributed to Muhammad 'Ali Hamadah, the brother of 'Abbas, who is also being held in West Germany. In these letters he condemns his prison conditions. The Mujahidin for Freedom Organization also enclosed a instant photo of Cordes along with the letters.

Foreign Ministry Position on Deportation
NC121608 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1515 GMT 12 Jan 88

[Text] The Lebanese Foreign Ministry has instructed its representatives at the United Nations and the Arab League Secretariat to hold the necessary consultations with the member states of these organizations to inform them of Lebanon's position on the bloody incidents in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip and the deportation of Palestinians. The Foreign Ministry further stated that Lebanon's position, as defined by President of the Republic Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil and Acting Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss, is one that rejects the expulsion or uprooting of any Palestinian from his land and his consequent deportation to any other country.

The Foreign Ministry added that Lebanon considers such an act to be an open violation of the principle of human rights that guarantees every individual's right and liberty to reside on the territory of his own country. The Foreign Ministry asked the two organizations to intervene to prevent Israel from carrying out its purposes and intentions regarding the deportation of some Palestinians to Lebanon, in light of the fact some Arab countries have refused to take them.

Al-Huss Discusses Economic Problems, Solutions
PM111149 London AL-MAJALLAH in Arabic
6-12 Jan 88 pp 31-33

[Interview with Acting Prime Minister Salim al-Huss by Rashid Hasan in Beirut; date not specified]

[Excerpts] [Introductory passage omitted] [AL-MAJALLAH] Prime Minister, the most important and serious problem that interests those observing the situation in Lebanon is the terrifying and rapid deterioration in the country's national budget and its effects on the national currency, the inflation rate, and the social and human conditions in Lebanon. What are the reasons for this deterioration?

[Al-Huss] It is obvious that the budget deficit is one of the important factors aggravating the economic crisis, thus leading to more inflationary pressures. Such pressures are considered to be the main reason behind the

sharp fall we now witness in the Lebanese currency's exchange rate. Obviously this budget deficit has resulted from the decline in the country's revenue as well as the increase in yearly expenditure. [passage omitted]

[AL-MAJALLAH] How is the situation regarding the government budget and debts owed by the Treasury as a result of this situation?

[Al-Huss] As a result of the factors I have already mentioned earlier, Treasury revenue in 1986 amounted to 7 or 8 billion Lebanese pounds—which constitutes only a fraction of the country's national budget expenditure. To show the extent of deterioration in the country's budget it is enough to mention that the accumulated interest on debt totals 20 billion Lebanese pounds a year. This means that the country's revenue is no longer enough even to service such debts. It is just enough to settle a small part of the interest due. This is in addition to public expenditure including wages, administrative expenditures, and projects.

[AL-MAJALLAH] But these figures are now being translated into financial inflation, deteriorating purchasing power, and, indeed, hunger for ordinary citizens. These ordinary citizens want both practical and swift answers. As an official, do you have a solution to this crisis whose implementation does not depend on a political solution which seems neither imminent or easy?

[Al-Huss] The situation can be dealt with in three steps:

The first concerns a political solution, which regrettably has not been secured. Had a political solution been achieved, there would be no reason for us to search for an economic remedy outside such a solution. An economic solution and an easing of living conditions would be no less than the natural product of a political solution. Since there seems to be no prospect of a political solution, at least at this stage, we have to search for an economic remedy.

The second step is an attempt to secure understanding among Lebanese groups regarding an economic solution, as well as an attempt to neutralize the economic aspect in handling the situation. This is on the grounds that there is common interest among all parties in stopping this deterioration, which affects everyone. So we have presented a plan with a view to solving the problem of the currency and the economy (editor's note: That is, the sale of 20% of the gold reserves and the use of the [resulting] income to finance government expenditure) in view of the facts governing the continuation of political struggle. However, regrettably our proposals faced political rejection from various quarters. The plan we presented has not been implemented.

Thus, as another alternative, we had to move to the third step, which aims at providing conditions that support the steadfastness of the Lebanese people in view of the economic deterioration and the continuation of the political struggle; this is until a political solution is achieved. [passage omitted]

[AL-MAJALLAH] Are there any offers of Arab aid for Lebanon, especially with regard to the resumption of the aid endorsed in its favor at the Arab summit conference held in Tunis a few years ago?

[Al-Huss] Our Arab brothers want to help, but positive political conditions must be available before convincing formulas or requests can be presented. The point now is that we must help ourselves within our capacity. With regard to the aid decided on at the Tunis summit, it was allocated specifically for reconstruction; this was in view of a climate indicating a Lebanese inclination toward a political solution and a national accord.

Regarding the recent deterioration in the situation, we must be realistic and admit that a major part of the recent dilemma can be solved by ourselves. [passage omitted]

Lahd Position Attacked, Casualties Noted
NC111049 (Clandestine) *Voice of the Mountain*
in Arabic to Lebanon 1000 GMT 11 Jan 88

[Text] National resistance fighters attacked a Lahd militia position east of Kafr Rumman last night. They also detonated an explosive device while a militia patrol attempted to help the militiamen manning the position. Resistance sources said that a number of agents were killed or wounded as a result. Meanwhile, the militia radio has admitted that a Lahd militiaman was wounded.

Israeli-Lahd Position in Yarin Attacked
NC121714 *Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic*
1630 GMT 12 Jan 88

[Text] The Forces of the Deprived issued a statement today saying that one of its groups used rockets and machineguns to attack a position jointly manned by Israeli troops and agent Lahd militiamen in the border

town of Yarin early today. The statement notes that the resistance fighters managed to destroy two observation posts, put a vehicle out of commission, and kill or wound well over 10 troops.

AL-SAFIR on New Political Reform Program
NC121115 *Beirut AL-SAFIR in Arabic* 11 Jan 88
pp 1, 5

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] There are diverse reports on a new working paper which is being examined by Washington, Damascus, and B'abda. Informed sources in Beirut have told AL-SAFIR that President Amin al-Jumayyil sent his remarks over this paper to the U.S. Administration.

According to these sources in Beirut, Al-Jumayyil's answer "does not close the door to further discussion." They state that the U.S. Administration sent Al-Jumayyil a political reform program some weeks ago that had been prepared by Saudi businessman Rafiq al-Hariri. This program, the sources add, stems from the tripartite agreement and introduces some amendments to it. The program's preamble defines Lebanon's affiliation, independence, sovereignty, and democratic system.

The program, according to these sources, speaks of a 50:50 division of the parliamentary seats [between Muslims and Christians], power sharing, the Cabinet sessions presided over by the prime minister, and the special cases in which the president of the Republic chairs these sessions.

Meanwhile, sources close to Damascus have pointed out that the reform program which the Americans submitted to the Syrian officials and President al-Jumayyil was only attributed to Al-Hariri. These sources note that Al-Hariri, in his capacity as a Saudi mediator who is in the know on all the preceding talks among the Lebanese disputants, might indeed have expressed his opinion on the program. They add that the U.S. officials told the Syrians that certain Arab parties had taken part in the preparation of this program.

Damascus reportedly received the text of the program from the Americans in early December. Damascus suggested that Al-Jumayyil's opinion on the program be sought before it discussed it with its allies. The U.S. Embassy [location not specified] handed over the text of the program to the Lebanese regime on 11 December 1987 and President al-Jumayyil sent his answer on 2 January 1988. [passage omitted]

Al-Asad Receives PDRY Minister, Letter
JN111902 Damascus Television Service in Arabic
1830 GMT 11 Jan 88

[Text] His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad received at 1815 today Rashid Muhammad Thabit, PDRY minister of state for union affairs. Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' and the PDRY ambassador were present at the meeting.

Thabit gave his excellency the president a letter from Haydar Abu Bakr al-Attas, chairman of the PDRY Supreme People's Council Presidium. His excellency the president gave him a reply letter.

Information Minister on Gulf War, Other Issues
JN131048 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
2115 GMT 12 Jan 88

[Text] Information Minister Muhammad Salman has stressed that Syria's efforts have succeeded in easing tension, preventing the expansion of the Iraq-Iran war, and creating a positive atmosphere for a cordial dialogue among Arabian Gulf states and Iran.

In a statement to REUTER, the minister said Syria has condemned the Gulf war from the very beginning. He said: Syria worked to stop the war at that time because it realized its threats and consequences. We did so also because we did not want the eruption of an Arab-Iranian war to create a state of hostility that would affect present and future generations and divert the attention of the Arab people and some of their countries from devoting their efforts to confronting the Zionist occupation which is threatening the Arab nation's future.

The minister stressed Syria is continuing its efforts because we believe we can reach results with Iran through cordial dialogue. The minister added: We can also settle most of the problems through confidence, cooperation, and a positive atmosphere, not through weapons, pressures, and the concentration of foreign fleets. These further complicate the situation and pose new threats to the region's peoples, to world peace and stability, and to the freedom of navigation in the Gulf.

Regarding relations with Lebanese President Amin al-Jummayil, the minister said: This issue is basically related to President al-Jumayyil's relations with the Lebanese people. It is also related to his great responsibilities which he is supposed to assume to achieve national accord among the Lebanese people to restore Lebanon's unity. This would enable Lebanon to cooperate with its Arab brothers and to adopt a stand hostile to Zionist plans and schemes.

Answering a question on Syria's efforts to secure the release of more foreign hostages in Lebanon, the minister said: From the very beginning, we have dealt with the hostage issue as a humanitarian issue, regardless of political or personal considerations, and out of our

condemnation of kidnapping and terrorism. We have exerted great efforts to secure the release of several hostages. We have made good results in this regard. The minister added Syria will continue its efforts in this regard despite the complicated security and political situation in Lebanon.

Regarding Syria's relations with Britain and the United States, the information minister said: There is nothing new in Syria's relations with Britain. The government of Mrs Thatcher, who chairs the British-Israeli Friendship Society, severed relations with our country on false pretexts. This stand has prevented Britain from participating in settling Middle East issues.

Regarding U.S.-Syrian relations, the minister said: These relations have been tense and complicated in the past. These ties can be more positive if the U.S. Administration adopts the principle of dialogue instead of threats of force and all forms of pressures.

They can also improve if this administration carries out a policy serving the interests of tax-paying American citizens before serving Israel's interests and its ambitions in the Arab region. The more the U.S. Administration abandons its current policy, the more Syrian-U.S. relations can create a positive atmosphere of cooperation in the interest of both sides.

Carlucci Tour Reflects Gulf 'Hegemony' Policy
PM130955 Damascus AL-BATH in Arabic
3 Jan 88 p 2

[Samir 'Arbash article: "Carlucci's Gulf Tour"]

[Text] The tour which the U.S. secretary of defense is starting today to the Arab Gulf region once again raises the matter of the U.S. military presence in the region in the context of its dimensions and aims. If we go back to the excuses which led the U.S. Administration to justify its intensive mobilization in agreement with the NATO allies, we only find the pretext of protecting international shipping, which collapsed before it was announced and before any propaganda attempt was made to put it forward in the world.

So, the continuous military mobilizations so far only constitute a factor which escalates the dangerous tense situation in the region and is at odds with the urgent international efforts which have been made and are still being made to put an end to the fighting and to avert the resultant dangers, especially since the situation is threatening to expand and spread as a result of the attempts to hit at international settlement efforts.

On the basis of the information Washington has circulated on the eve of the defense secretary's tour, observers have said the aim of this tour is to strengthen the U.S. military presence more than ever before, which is in

keeping with what George Shultz, the U.S. secretary of state and the engineer of its international policy, announced—that U.S. forces have not come to the Gulf region to leave it.

Therefore, the Gulf tour by the U.S. secretary of defense confirms the method of hegemony and control over the region; it is a method which prejudices the security and sovereignty of its people and is incompatible with their national and pan-Arab interests.

The pretext of protecting international shipping has not convinced anyone from the start, especially since the

proposal to create international forces belonging to the United Nations is a practical proposal which refutes the assertions of the United States, which has set itself up as "defender" of international shipping while intensifying its military presence.

The pressing and outstanding issue in the region is the examination of ways to expel the U.S. and NATO concentrations from Gulf waters as the first and important step towards achieving a political settlement guaranteeing the rights and sovereignty of the peoples of the region, keeping them safe from any blatant intervention in their affairs.

Afghanistan

U.S., Pakistani Stands on Geneva Talks Viewed

LD130003 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari
1600 GMT 12 Jan 88

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] According to reports, U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz has welcomed, in an approving manner, the recent statement by Eduard Shevardnadze, member of the Politburo and USSR minister of foreign affairs, concerning events linked to Afghanistan, and he expressed the hope that the current year will be the year for a satisfactory solution to this issue. The U.S. ambassador to the United Nations has also expressed his opinion that a solution to the Afghanistan issue is important for [word indistinct] and general framework of relations between the two superpowers.

These statements show with [words indistinct] that the United States, or at least (?influential) figures in the Washington administration, have, after years, come to the conclusion that the continuation of this [words indistinct] would no longer remain limited to the borders of Afghanistan and Pakistan, that it does not serve international interests or security, and that therefore it should be dragged from its hotbed of tension to the discussion table.

Recent statements by White House leaders indicate that U.S. policy vis-a-vis issues about Afghanistan is still vague and unspecified. The statements made by the political leaders of this country are not consistent and harmonious. As mentioned earlier, (?a number) of credible political figures in the United States and in Western countries, irresponsibly, on various pretexts, have announced their support for the continuation of tension and turmoil, and by their support for the extremists they try to (?broaden) the dimension of the issue.

[Words indistinct] by poisonous propaganda against the Republic of Afghanistan and the Soviet Union they want to make specific gains in other parts of the world, particularly in the Islamic world and Latin America. [Words indistinct] by a BBC commentator, there are people in the U.S. Administration who do not show much inclination for an immediate solution to the Afghanistan issue, and they try to foil all efforts which would lead to the immediate solution of the problem.

[Words indistinct] some political (?analysts) have the opinion that in the process of periodical and indirect meetings in Geneva between representatives of Afghanistan and Pakistan under the mediation of D. Cordovez, the United States continuously invokes Pakistan to (?present) more difficult conditions so that the issue remains unsolved and the Geneva sessions are prolonged. For example, Zain Noorani, Pakistan's minister of foreign affairs, despite formal plans at the Geneva talks, speaks about the withdrawal of the limited units of

the friendly country—the USSR—in three [word indistinct]. This, by itself, shows a lack of firmness and is blackmail by the political authorities of Pakistan vis-a-vis events concerning Afghanistan.

The fact is that the artificial fanning of tension and disturbances in our region in no way serves the long-term interests of the people of Pakistan. This country, in order to obtain more modern military weapons from the United States and a number of Western countries, has put itself at the disposal of the warmongering international circles, and tries to create artificial tension and unrest along the borders of Afghanistan and the Republic of India, and to discharge its duties in the manner of the military strategy of warmongers.

In the wake of the Geneva talks between Afghanistan and Pakistan, the Republic of Pakistan will display political will, pay attention to the possible harmful and dangerous consequence, and assume responsibility that if the situation continues, the crisis will affect Pakistan.

BAKHTAR Comments on Shevardnadze Interview

LD121056 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0421 GMT
12 Jan 88

[Text] Kabul, January 11, BAKHTAR—A political observer of BAKHTAR writes:

The interview of Eduard Shevardnadze, foreign minister of the Soviet Union with BAKHTAR INFORMATION AGENCY in Kabul, made clear the aims and results of the recent working visit of USSR foreign minister to the Republic of Afghanistan.

The visit aimed at seeking ways and means for the ever-faster solution of the situation around Afghanistan and the realisation of the policy of national reconciliation for ending war and ensuring peace and security in the country.

The extensive talks held between Najibullah and other high-ranking leaders of the Republic of Afghanistan and E. Shevardnadze not only left deep effects in the friendly relations between the two countries but convinced the Afghan people that the Republic of Afghanistan and the Soviet Union make earnest efforts for the political solution of the situation around Afghanistan.

In the interview of USSR foreign minister with BIA reporter hope has been expressed that the Republic of Afghanistan and the Soviet Union with good understanding and full accord are in favour of the solution of the situation around Afghanistan if the U.S. assistance to extremists ends. The limited military contingents of the Soviet Union in twelve months and even sooner than that will return from Afghanistan to their homeland after achieving an agreement in Geneva talks and international guarantees.

The fact is that the Soviet Union has dealt with goodwill and a clear stand to the most hot issues of the world including the issues around Afghanistan.

Now, it is up to the United States that to what extent it really shows an interest for the peaceful solution of the situation around Afghanistan and the ever-sooner return of the Soviet military contingents from Afghanistan.

The people of the world together with the people of Afghanistan can judge that which forces the goodwill and firm determination that can give a clear and positive response to the will of the Afghan people to put an end to war and bloodshed and the ever-faster solution of the situation around Afghanistan through peaceful means.

In the recently concluded meeting of Michael Armacost, the U.S. under secretary of state, to Pakistan and his meeting with the Pakistani high-ranking authorities and the heads of Afghan extremists, the cut in American military assistance to extremists was not even mentioned in on respect as a token of goodwill in the peaceful solution of the situation around Afghanistan. On the contrary, he has repeatedly talked about the U.S. assistance to extremists, which form the reasons for the continuation of tension.

What can be said to such an unspecified political position. The people of Afghanistan look to the United States to act with goodwill for ending war and fratricide in Afghanistan and the peaceful solution of the situation around Afghanistan.

Najibullah Attends Security Ministry Ceremony

*LD130045 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari
1600 GMT 12 Jan 88*

[Excerpt] Esteemed Najibullah, president of the Republic of Afghanistan, today took part in a glorious meeting marking the eighth founding anniversary of the State Security Ministry of the Republic of Afghanistan.

Esteemed Najibullah, accompanied by Sultan 'Ali Keshtmand, prime minister of the Republic of Afghanistan, and Major General Muhammad Rafi', minister of defense of the Republic of Afghanistan, arrived in the meeting place around 1400. Najibullah was welcomed by Lieutenant General Ghulam Faruq Ya'qubi, minister of state security, and a delegation of the ministry's leadership.

After inspecting the honor guard, esteemed Najibullah took part in a glorious session marking the eighth founding anniversary of the State Security Ministry.

A BIA correspondent reported that the ceremony marking this anniversary began after the playing of the Afghan national anthem. In his instructive speech to this session, esteemed Najibullah specified the duties and responsibilities of the personnel of this ministry concerning the

realization of the policy of national reconciliation, the resolutions of the second PDPA national conference, and the historic Loya Jirgah of the people of Afghanistan.

By presidential decree the title "Hero of the Republic of Afghanistan" was presented to two personnel who were martyred for the consolidation of the gains of the April Revolution. The "Banner of Hero" was presented to a unit of this ministry. Medals and badges of the Republic of Afghanistan were presented to a number of the ministry's distinguished personnel.

At this meeting Lt Gen Ghulam Faruq Ya'qubi, minister of state security, presented a report on the ministry's activities. [passage omitted]

13th Supply Convoy Arrives in Khowst 11 Jan

*LD112034 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto
1530 GMT 11 Jan 88*

[Text] In line with the delivery of foodstuffs and consumer goods to Khowst major district, the 13th supply convoy, numbering 240 vehicles and carrying 1,548 tonnes of foodstuffs and consumer goods, arrived in Khowst major district today.

According to a BIA correspondent's report from Gardeyz, since the opening of the Gardeyz-Khowst highway, more than 16,777 tonnes of foodstuff and consumer goods have been sent to Khowst major district. The process of sending goods on state and private transportation vehicles is continuing normally.

Soviet Religious Delegation Arrives on Visit

*LD122314 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto
1530 GMT 12 Jan 88*

[Excerpt] A delegation from the religious authority of Soviet Central Asia and Kazakhstan, headed by Shamsoddin Babakhan, arrived in Kabul yesterday for a friendly visit at the invitation of the Afghan Ministry of Islamic Affairs and Endowments.

The delegation was greeted at Kabul International Airport by the representatives of the Ministry of Islamic Affairs and Endowments and by a delegation from the High Council of Clergy and Ulama of the Republic of Afghanistan.

According to another report, the delegation of the Soviet Central Asian and Kazakhstan religious authority had separate meetings with 'Abdul Jamil Zarifi, minister of Islamic affairs and endowments, and Ghulam Sarwar Manzor, president of the High Council of Ulama and Clergy. [passage omitted]

Moscow City Delegation Arrives for Talks

*LD112152 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto
1530 GMT 11 Jan 88*

[Text] A delegation from the Moscow City representatives council headed by (Oleg Grigoryevich Popov), vice chairman of the council's executive committee, arrived in Kabul today.

BIA reports that Kabul Mayor Adina Sangin, vice president of the direct cooperation authority, greeted the delegation at Kabul International Airport. The delegation will talk about cooperation in the fields of education, health, transport, and construction under the direct cooperation program between the cities of Kabul and Moscow.

Commerce Minister, USSR Sign Trade Protocol

*LD102145 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari
1600 GMT 10 Jan 88*

[Text] Sultan 'Ali Keshtmand, prime minister of the Republic of Afghanistan, took part in ceremonies at the headquarters of the Council of Ministers this afternoon to sign a protocol on the exchange of goods between the Republic of Afghanistan and the USSR for the year 1988.

The protocol was signed on the Afghan side by Commerce Minister Muhammad Khan Jalalar, and on the Soviet side by Yevgeniy Pavlovich Bavrln, deputy minister for foreign trade. Present at the signing ceremony were Deputy Prime Minister Nazar Muhammad, Sayyed 'Amanuddin Amin, 'Abdulhamid Mohtat, Muhammad 'Aziz, and some senior state officials. Present on the Soviet side were Pavel Petrovich Mozhayev, ambassador and extraordinary representative of the USSR in Kabul; (Yuriy Cheyodrovich Tobarov), minister plenipotentiary; Aleksandr Petrov, economic counsellor; and (Mikhail Andranovich Pozhilov), trade representative—all from the USSR Embassy in Kabul.

The Afghan commerce minister and the Soviet deputy foreign trade minister delivered speeches at the end of the signing ceremony.

BAKHTAR reports that in accordance with this protocol a growth in the reciprocal delivery of volume of goods between the Republic of Afghanistan and the USSR for the year 1988 is expected. On the basis of the protocol the Soviet Union will deliver machines and equipment for petroleum materials, chemical fertilizers, iron products, construction materials, foodstuffs, and consumer industrial goods to the Republic of Afghanistan and the Afghan side will export natural gas, handicrafts, olives, and dried fruit to the Soviet Union.

Agricultural Cooperation With USSR Detailed

*LD102322 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari
1600 GMT 10 Jan 88*

[Text] The protocol on the expansion and development of agricultural cooperation between the Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reform of the Republic of Afghanistan and the State Committee for Agriculture and Industry of the Soviet Union was signed yesterday in Moscow.

On the basis of this protocol the Soviet Union will supply and assist Afghanistan with agricultural equipment and material including tractors, harvesters, chemical fertilizer, improved wheat grain, and other kinds of improved seeds.

Ghulam Faruq Kobakiwal, minister of agriculture and land reform, who is visiting the USSR at the head of a delegation, has said that cooperation in the field of agriculture over the revolution years has developed and expanded and that the Soviet Union has helped the Afghan side in economic development and social changes.

He said Afghan farmers had obtained agricultural machinery and equipment supplied by the USSR. As a result of the cooperation of the Soviet Union, five stations of agricultural machinery and tractors have been founded and two others are under construction. The Soviet Union will continue its cooperation with the modernization of the Nangrahar irrigation system. Direct cooperation with our provinces is of extraordinary importance. The Soviet Union has also offered grants in the field of livestock breeding to the Republic of Afghanistan.

Last year three veterinary laboratories and six animal clinics were equipped through cooperation with the Soviet Union and they are in the service of the livestock breeders of our country. This cooperation includes various equipment, biological materials, vaccines against animal diseases, and so on. Soviet experts in Afghanistan persistently guide Afghan agricultural personnel through their technical cooperation. A number of Afghan youths have studied in the agricultural institutes of the Soviet Union and now discharge agricultural duties in Afghanistan.

Bangladesh

Ershad Comments on Elections, Opposition

*BK121623 Dhaka Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 12 Jan 88*

[Excerpt] President Ershad has said elections are the only means to uphold the Constitution and the cause of democracy. He was addressing an executive council

meeting of the Bangladesh Muktijodha Sangsad [Freedom Fighters Association] in Dhaka today. The president said he will not do anything beyond the purview of the Constitution and democratic norms. He is, however, ready to accept any suggestion from any quarter to hold free and fair elections.

The president reiterated that elections will be held even if two or three political parties do not take part. Referring to the activities of some political parties, he said their leaders are even ready to compromise the independence and sovereignty of the country to go to power. The politics of terrorism and violence being pursued by these parties have brought tremendous economic hardships to the common people. The people have already identified their doublefacedness and that is why they are afraid to face people and seek their mandate.

The president, who is the chief adviser of the Muktijodha Sangsad, commended the role of the freedom fighters in upholding democracy. [passage omitted]

Examines Foreign, Domestic Issues

JN101202 Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic
7 Jan 88 p 5

[Interview with President Muhammad Hussain Ershad by reporter Anji Mustafa in Cairo; date not given]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] [Mustafa] How would you describe relations between Egypt and Bangladesh and their dimension and scope?

[Ershad] They are more than excellent. We are two fraternal Islamic countries who support each other on all political issues. We also have good trade and cultural relations. We have signed one agreement with the Egyptian Radio and Television Union, and another on shipping. We will also form a joint ministerial committee to discuss the possibilities of expanding trade exchange between the two countries. Thus far, trade exchange has totaled 10 million [currency not specified]. We want to increase it. We will export jute and tea to Egypt in exchange for Egyptian phosphates and aluminum. Our current target is to at least double our trade exchange volume. [passage omitted]

[Mustafa] You are facing an acute dilemma in Dhaka, that of the opposition's stand against you. After dissolving the present parliament, you announced that elections would be held on 28 February. For its part, the opposition announced that it will not participate. Can you comment on current developments? Do you not believe that the formation of a parliament now will exacerbate rather than resolve the crisis?

[Ershad] I do not believe that such a move will exacerbate the crisis. This is what happened: We held elections 2 years ago in which 28 parties participated. These elections were followed by the presidential elections which brought me to the presidency. [passage omitted]

The opposition said that the elections were rigged. What is surprising is that the party that made these accusations won 74 seats in parliament, its highest total ever. My party won 153 seats, in addition to 30 seats held by women I had chosen, and 39 seats held by a party that joined mine. This means I have 212 seats in parliament and I need 220 votes to pass the constitutional amendments I have proposed. I would like to emphasize the following: If I had rigged the elections, I would have given myself 220 seats, the majority I need to pass any constitutional amendment, a two-thirds majority vote. [passage omitted]

What does the opposition want? No one can answer this and the people continue to wonder. Their criticism is only on paper and in the press. Only two opposition parties have some leverage; the first, like me, believes in God, and the second is secular.

[Mustafa] But they declared a general strike and it was comprehensive.

[Ershad] This is not true. They declared a general strike and began throwing bombs in the streets. This frightened the people who kept to their houses, but all employees, whether in government departments or private institutions, joined their work in a normal and organized manner. The proclamation of the general strike came through the BBC and the people believe it. [passage omitted]

[Mustafa] There is also the refugee problem with India. Has it been solved?

[Ershad] We will hold talks with India on this problem. This is a long-standing problem that goes back to the time when we were a part of Pakistan. We want to settle it by reaching an understanding with the people in question, who are the root of this problem. We are talking to them and exchanging viewpoints with them. [passage omitted]

Hungarian Official Holds Talks on Trade Issues

BK121612 Dhaka Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 12 Jan 88

[Text] The visiting Hungarian deputy foreign minister said his country is ready to help develop a well-planned communication system in Bangladesh. For this Hungary will supply trolley buses, railway goods, and medical equipment for railway hospital. This was stated by Dr Nagy Gabor at a meeting with Deputy Minister for Communications Mamdudur Rahman Chowdhury in Dhaka today. They stressed the need for greater cooperation for developing a better transportation system in Bangladesh.

Dr Gabor also had talks with Deputy Minister for Commerce H.M.A. Ghaffar. He proposed that the ninth barter agreement between the two countries should be renewed for maintaining the present trade level. The

agreement expires on 30 June next. He also expressed keen interest of his country to import ready-made garments and medicinal herbs from Bangladesh. Hungary also has expressed its willingness to take part in Bangladesh's rural development projects.

Expanded Cooperation Discussed

*BK130435 Dhaka Domestic Service in English
0110 GMT 13 Jan 88*

[Text] Bangladesh and Hungary have agreed to examine the possibilities of constituting a joint economic commission to expand their bilateral cooperation. A proposal to this effect was given by Bangladesh during official talks between the two countries in Dhaka yesterday. Deputy Foreign Minister Wajid Ali Khan Punny led the Bangladesh side in the talks, while the Hungarian delegation was headed by the visiting deputy minister for foreign affairs, Dr Nagy Gabor.

In the bilateral fields, the Bangladesh deputy foreign minister thanked his Hungarian counterpart for extending credits amounting to \$2.7 crore which had been satisfactorily utilized. Bangladesh also proposed to Hungary the setting up of various joint venture projects. Mr Punny expressed Bangladesh's readiness to improve export of traditional and nontraditional items and assured the visiting minister that Bangladesh is ready to meet the entire raw jute requirement of Hungary. Dr Gabor assured that his government would consider the proposal.

Reviewing the international situation, the two sides reaffirmed their readiness to work for world peace.

India

Court Restrains AIADMK Official's Actions

*BK130449 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0240 GMT 13 Jan 88*

[Text] The Madras High Court has restrained Mr S. Raghavanandan, a senior general secretary of the AIADMK led by Mrs Janaki Ramachandran [Tamil Nadu chief minister], from expelling or taking disciplinary action against any member. Justice P. Bhaskaran granted the interim injunction after admitting a suit filed by seven district secretaries supporting Miss Jayalalitha [leader of AIADMK dissident faction]. The suit prayed for the appointment of a commissioner or an officer by the high court to convene a meeting of the AIADMK General Council on or before the 22d of this month. It also wanted the court to issue a permanent injunction restraining the government whip, Mr D. Govindarajan, from issuing any whip to AIADMK legislators without direction from the party General Council. The court has issued notice to the respondents and adjourned the case for tomorrow. Mr Raghavanandan had earlier expelled two district secretaries supporting Miss Jayalalitha from the party.

Meanwhile, the speaker, Mr P.H. Pandian, has issued a show-cause notice to Mr Nedunchezhiyan and six other dissident MLA's [members of Legislative Assembly] asking why action should not be taken against them under the anti-defection law.

In another development, the ruling AIADMK faction has postponed its executive committee meeting scheduled for today. Reports say that the decision was taken on the advice of the chief minister, Mrs Janaki Ramachandran, who wanted to defuse tension following the announcement of Miss Jayalalitha to hold parallel meeting of her group at the same venue in Madras and at the same time. Mr Nedunchezhiyan has ruled out any compromise and patch up with Mrs Ramachandran's faction.

Iran

Ramadan HQ Announces 'Zafar-5' Offensive

*LD130937 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
0910 GMT 13 Jan 88*

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Text] Dear listeners, please pay attention to a report which I have just received. Ramadan Headquarters, the center for supervising the irregular warfare of the Ground Forces of the IRGC, reports that the rangers of the 75th Zafar Brigade of the IRGC Ground Forces, with the cooperation of the Peshmerga of the Democratic Party [KDP] and Kurdish fighters from Al-Sulaymaniyah, started "Zafar-5" operations from three axes in Kirkuk, Dahuk, and Diyala Provinces under the holy codename "O Zahra, Peace Be Upon Her" [Zahra is the title given to Fatima, the prophet's daughter].

In all the operational axes the various units of the Ba'thist forces stationed in the operational zones suffered heavy losses and casualties and tens of them were captured by the fighters of Islam. Details of these operations will be brought to your notice in subsequent communiques.

Iraqi Base 'Destroyed'

*LD130947 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
0920 GMT 13 Jan 88*

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Text] Dear listeners, please pay attention to a report that we have received: The Mandali Base of the Ba'thist Army in Iraq's Kirkuk Province has been destroyed during a carefully planned operation. In this operation, the rangers of the 75th Zafar Brigade of the IRGC Ground Forces under the command of the Ramadan Headquarters, and with the cooperation of the Kurdish Democratic Peshmergas of Iraq, succeeded in totally

routing the 26th Battalion of the 22d Brigade stationed at this base. The Mandali Base is situated 7 km from Kirkuk, 150 km deep inside Iraqi territory, near the village of (Shiman).

This successful operation was carried out in retaliation for the recent atrocities of the Iraqi Ba'thist Army, when they ruthlessly massacred 206 Muslim Kurdish inhabitants of (Shiman) village.

200 Iraqis Killed

LD131002 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
0930 GMT 13 Jan 88

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Text] Dear listeners, please pay attention to a report which I have just received: In continuation of the "Zafar-5" operations in the Mandali axis of Kirkuk Province, more than 200 enemy personnel, including a number of officers and NCO's, have been killed. A considerable quantity of equipment belonging to the Ba'thist forces, including 20 light and heavy vehicles, have been set on fire and destroyed. During these operations, 80 members of the 16th Battalion were captured by our forces and were transferred to liberated areas. A number of officers and NCO's can also be seen among the POW's. Four Alfa and Toyota [vehicles] and a quantity of light and semi-heavy weapons were also captured during the operations in that axis and were taken to liberated areas.

Ramadan Headquarters reports that as soon as the operations began Brigadier General 'Izz al-Din Muhammad Amin, commander of the 16th Battalion in Mandali, ordered his forces to resist the attacking forces, but he personally immediately fled from the scene of battle.

Successes in 'Zafar-5' Noted

LD131016 Tehran IRNA in English 1000 GMT
13 Jan 88

[Text] Tehran, Jan. 13, IRNA—Muslim forces of Iran in a new operation called Zafar-5 (Victory) launched early Tuesday 200 kms deep inside Iraq have scored new victories.

The Muslim combatants in cooperation with the forces of the Iraqi Kurdistan Democratic Party (KDP) launched the operations in three axes of Al-Amadiyah-Dahuk, Dahuk-Shaqlawah, and Kani-Dahuk, in Dahuk Province, northern Iraq, inflicted heavy losses on the enemy.

The Muslim forces after entering the important Iraqi military town of Dahuk, in the province inflicted heavy casualties and damage on the enemy forces. The combatants now have control over all major Al-Amadiyah-Dahuk roads.

The Muslim combatants also took over government and military centers in Dahuk and destroyed the intelligence center, Iraqi Ba'th Party headquarters, and district governor's office.

In continuation of the operations, KDP forces and units under the command of the Ramadan Headquarters of the IRGC, after destroying 36 watch posts on heights overlooking Dahuk, took control of four enemy battalion bases and totally destroyed them.

So far more than 500 Iraqis have been killed or wounded and 260 have been taken captive.

Munitions seized include seven military vehicles, one armoured personnel carrier and hundreds of light and semi-heavy weapons.

Iraqi Losses Cited

LD131056 Tehran IRNA in English 1045 GMT
13 Jan 88

[Text] Tehran, Jan. 13, IRNA—Muslim combatants of Iran destroyed Mandali Base of the Iraqi Ba'th Party in new Zafar-5 launched early Tuesday killing or wounding 200 Iraqi soldiers and capturing 80 others.

During the attack commandos of Zafar Brigade 75 with the cooperation of Peshmergas of Iraqi Kurdistan Democratic Party (KDP) completely destroyed Battalion 16 of 22nd Brigade stationed in the base.

Mandali Base lies seven kms off Kirkuk and 150 kms deep inside Iraqi territory.

Several Iraqi tanks and personnel carriers as well as 20 military vehicles were set afire and 10 other vehicles and an assortment of light and semi heavy weapons were also seized intact.

On another axis heavy artillery fire of the Ramadan Headquarters destroyed headquarters and logistic, engineering, and communication centers of Iraqi Division 21 in Maydan region, Diyala Province, by 40 per cent.

During the shelling 150 Iraqis were killed or wounded and seven loaders, 26 military vehicles and an ammunition depot were destroyed.

Meanwhile, commandos of Zafar Brigade 75 of infantry forces of the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps with KDP Peshmergas ambushed Iraqi Ba'thist troops on the axis of Al-Sulaymaniyah-Kirkuk in the region of Qaran-jir [placename as received], 18 kms off Kirkuk, killing or injuring 30 Iraqi Ba'thists.

Captain Najat Ahmad Salih is among those killed. Eight other Iraqi soldiers were also taken captive.

Khomeyni Explains 'Ambiguities' on Legislation

LD121900 Tehran IRNA in English 1827 GMT
12 Jan 88

["Imam's Decree Cleared All Ambiguities, Says Emami-Kashani"—IRNA headline]

[Text] Tehran, Jan. 12, IRNA—Spokesman for the Council of Guardians Ayatollah Mohammad Emami-Kashani said here Tuesday the recent decree of the leader of the Islamic revolution, Imam Khomeyni has served to give the Council of Guardians a freer hand to endorse law bills.

Emami-Kashani told a press conference here that several bills passed by the Majlis (Parliament) but not endorsed by the Council of Guardians, will be revised. The Council of Guardians will endorse the Majlis approval regarding the labor bill, he added.

The recent remarks made by the founder of the Islamic Republic in his response to President 'Ali Khamene'i's letter has helped settle all problems, he said, noting that Imam Khomeyni's remarks do not contradict the constitution, as some may misinterpret.

According to the constitution, Emami-Kashani said, all bills passed by the Majlis should be endorsed by the Council of Guardians which, he said, is now given a free hand to endorse these laws.

Friday Imams To Hold Seminar

LD122247 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1630 GMT 12 Jan 88

[Text] The statement of the Central Secretariat of Friday Imams addressed to Friday imams all over the country is the first report of this news section:

In connection with Imam Khomeyni's response to the president's letter concerning the debate over the rule and vice regency of the supreme jurisconsult by the respected Friday imams, the following statement was issued by the Central Secretariat of Friday Imams addressed to the Friday imams throughout the country:

In the name of God, the Almighty. For a long time now the enemies of Islam, by devising the question of separating religion from politics, (cunningly) tried to convey the idea that Islam cannot be taken seriously as a system of government on the world's political scene and that it is not capable of solving many of the problems and difficulties faced by society, notably, economic and social problems. However, the wise guidance of the great leader of the revolution, the eminent Imam Khomeyni, may his blessings continue, from the start of the Islamic revolutionary movement up to now, neutralized the propaganda rumor of world arrogance. He also affirmed the belief that Islam, by relying on its rich and abundant resources, is capable of overcoming all the economic-social and military-cultural difficulties of the society in

the best possible manner and should be regarded as the only powerful, strong, and vanguard system in the world. The important message of his eminence the imam, may his shadow extend, in reply to the letter from the respected president, removed many of the difficulties and obstacles standing in the way of the legislature and legislature issues of the country.

Taking note of the lofty ideas and spiritual guidances of your grace concerning the discussion of this important and fundamental issue in the Friday prayer sermons, the Central Secretariat of Friday Imams calls on all respected Friday imams all over the country to participate in a seminar that will convene next week for this purpose. The time and place of the seminar will be conveyed later to the gentlemen concerned.

Deputies Thank Khomeyni

LD121810 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1030 GMT 12 Jan 88

[Text] A number of Majlis deputies, in a letter to his holiness the imam of the ummah, have expressed their thanks for the reply given by Imam Khomeyni to a recent letter from President Khamene'i.

The letter reads: Your holiness' important and historic message in response to the beloved president of the Islamic Republic of Iran, His Excellency Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Haj Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, contained many subtle points and precise references. It is appropriate for religious seminaries and worthy students of Feyziyyeh [theological college in Qom] to fully explain the dimensions of the absolute divine jurisconsult by making use of the principles of Islamic jurisprudence. It was the best possible present to the Islamic ummah.

O Imam! The enemies of Islam and the opportunists made diverse interpretations regarding the response of the master [Khomeyni] and the query of the student [Khamene'i] which cast doubt in the mind of the divine Iranian nation. At times, in the name of defending the position of jurisconsult and imamate, they had engaged in insinuation and character assassination, and even questioned the third round of elections to the Islamic Consultative Assembly. Their main aim was to crush the Friday imam, the esteemed president of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the living martyr, and to destroy the man who raised the call of the Islamic Revolution in the United Nations, rather than to explain the absolute divine jurisconsult.

O Imam! We know that the Islamic president of Iran and other national officials are all followers and devotees of Your Holiness. They have the same views as those of Your Holiness on divine rule. They have believed in and supported the divine rule since the time Your Holiness elaborated and discussed it in holy Najaf [where Khomeyni lived during the greater part of his exile].

The result of your reply to the president's second letter is that all plots were neutralized. We, the deputies of the Islamic Consultative Assembly, express our sincere thanks and appreciation to Your Holiness, who is the pilot of the ship of the revolution and the master of the caravan of the nation, and who always comes to the rescue in critical junctures in the life of the revolution and the nation.

While wishing for the victory of the fighters, we pray to compassionate God for the continuation of the life of Your Holiness until the appearance of his holiness the hidden imam, may God hasten his noble advent.

Students Support Khomeyni

LD131326 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1109 GMT 13 Jan 88

[Station political commentary: "Appropriate Action by Muslim Students"]

[Text] As it was reported in the news, following the invitation of the Islamic societies of university students, a few hours ago Muslim students and others started a glorious march from Tehran University toward Jamaran [northern Tehran suburb where Khomeyni lives]. After assembling in front of the den of espionage [former U.S. Embassy] and expressing their hatred for the arch-Satan, the students began marching toward Jamaran.

This march, which is a principled move in support of the imam's line as the only correct version of Islam, has been welcomed by various organizations, institutions, a number of Majlis deputies, and others. Recently, there was a great deal of anxiety among those who were concerned about the revolution's fate and about the nonimplementation of the imam's line in various dimensions of social activities, and different personal and self-styled interpretations and understandings of the limits of the powers of the rule of the jurisconsult.

Those interpretations had given rise to an atmosphere in which some people wondered if Islam had any plan or any answer for the correct administration of society, and if Islam had a place in today's world. All the fundamental projects of the revolution came to a standstill. The government was faced with enormous problems in economic and social fields and, in practice, a hidden hopelessness was being felt by the forces favoring the revolution. Gradually, the thought gained strength in the minds of a number of uninformed individuals that there were no solutions for the country's social and economic problems in today's world. They also incorrectly believed that Islam is unable to solve economic and social problems. Another group of people imposed a framework on the prerogatives of an Islamic government within which there would certainly have been no possibility for solving society's problems.

This was yet another difficulty which has now been removed like so many other difficulties and problems which had been placed before the principled moves of the revolution ever since its beginning. These difficulties were resolved and removed as a result of the decisiveness and wisdom of the leader [Khomeyni]. With the edict of his holiness the imam as the source of emulation and as ruler of the Islamic government, in which he described government as one of the primary principles of Islam, there is no longer any ambiguity in the Islamic government's plans for solving the country's economic and social problems. It is now the duty of the country's officials and planners to present plans and pass decisive laws for the implementation of social justice, with due regard for the realities of the country and the revolution. Moreover, as it was stressed in the message of the Muslim university students, the imam's line should be made sovereign in all the different aspects of society.

Safi Meets With Khomeyni

LD131137 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1030 GMT 13 Jan 88

[Text] The Central News Unit reports that Ayatollah Safi, the secretary of the Council of Guardians, met with Imam Khomeyni this morning. During the meeting Ayatollah Safi commented on the Council of Guardian's position and stated: The Council of Guardians fully accepts what your eminence has said regarding rule by a jurisconsult and governmental decrees. The council has no doubts regarding this matter and considers itself subordinate to governmental decrees.

During the meeting, the imam of the ummah expressed his thanks for the services rendered by the council and graciously said: The matter of rule by a jurisconsult and governmental decrees are among the primary commandments. The imam of the ummah stated: The council institution will always have my support. It has not been nor will be undermined in any way. This institution should always strive to serve Islam and Muslims with alertness and awareness. It is to be hoped that Muslims, particularly the great Iranian nation, will be firm in preserving unity among all the revolution's institutions.

Opposition to Khomeyni Decree

TA122018 (Clandestine) Iran's Flag of Freedom Radio
in Persian 1630 GMT 12 Jan 88

[Excerpts] According to reports received by us, not only true clergymen but even those affiliated with the regime itself have been alarmed by Khomeyni's satanic ideas. They assess his remarks about the velayat-e faqih rule as contrary to Islamic decrees and laws.

On the basis of reports received from reliable sources, Ayatollah Mahdavi-Kani is among those who strongly oppose changes in the form of government and considers them to be un-Islamic. [passage omitted]

Another report indicates that most members of the militant clergy association have come out against the views of Ruhollah Khomeyni.

Khamene'i Assails Financial Jihad Response
NC111032 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
0645 GMT 11 Jan 88

[Interview with President Khamene'i from the "Voice of the Front" feature; date and place not given—recorded]

[Text] [Unidentified correspondent] During your Friday prayers sermon last week you referred to our people's selflessness, and today we saw that you gave an audience to a group of people from various parts of the country who made some contributions. Can Your Excellency please comment on the 10-point decree by the Supreme War Support Council, the people's response to it, and the positive impact this immense movement can have on the course of the war?

[Khamene'i] In the name of God, the almighty, the merciful. Of course, your questions cannot be answered in the few minutes that I have been allotted. However, I will still speak for only 1 or 2 minutes. The people have truly shown selflessness and devotion in response to officials' requests at various points in this revolution. In the financial jihad too, the majority of the people—mostly from the middle class and lower—have responded well. Some of the wealthy have also responded. Of course, I should state that not all of them have responded, even though in the financial jihad our call was basically addressed to them. During the Friday prayers sermon [calling for the financial jihad] we pointed out that we should not expect the lower income class, which has always responded to all our calls, to once again respond more than the wealthy, but unfortunately this is exactly what has happened. In other words, the contributions from the landowners and the wealthy are lagging behind. Some of them have helped in the financial jihad up to a point, but not so much as was expected of them. These people should, God willing, not hang back in this race because if they do, our people will think very ill of them. However, I should point out that the public in general and the majority of the people have displayed true devotion and done whatever they could. You recently saw an example of this devotion.

[Correspondent] Thank you.

[Khamene'i] I pray for your success.

Khamene'i on Campaign To Help Fighters' Families
LD111337 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1030 GMT 11 Jan 88

[Interview with President and Supreme Defense Council Chairman Khamene'i by unidentified Central News Unit correspondent; date and place not given—recorded]

[Text] [Correspondent] Mr Khamene'i, 10-20 January has been declared as the 10 days of Helpers of the Fighters [Ansar al-Mojahedin]. Please tell us what is the

aim of holding these 10 days, and what are the duties of our martyr-nurturing ummah during those 10 days.

[Khamene'i] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. The idea of starting a movement called Helpers of the Fighters was proposed by the IRGC. From the outset when this proposal was made and discussed in the Supreme War Support Council, we felt that this was the best and most necessary plan to be implemented.

If a fighter at the front has all he needs such as clothes, food, weapons, ammunition, vehicles, fortifications, and other things needed by a fighter, but is worried about the problems behind the fronts regarding his home and family, his children, and the usual difficulties faced by a family whose head and active young man has gone to the front, his effectiveness will be reduced. Therefore, the Helpers of the Fighters could provide true support for the battlefronts. In addition, Islamic brotherhood and cooperation also require that we appreciate the value of a brother who has gone to the front and is defending the country's borders, the people's revolution and the people's religion. Moreover, we regard his family, his difficulties, and his affairs behind the lines as those of our own and we attend to them.

The formation of those 10 days that have been announced by the IRGC brothers aims to acquaint the people with these facts. We hope that the people will seriously regard this proposal of the Guards Corps, and that they will organize companies and battalions in a paramilitary formation for these activities. They should do their best to remove the difficulties of the families of the martyrs as much as possible.

[Correspondent] Thank you.

Organization Set Up To Aid Iraqis, Lebanese
LD121744 Tehran IRNA in English 1134 GMT
2 Jan 88

[Text] Qom, Central Prov., Jan 12, IRNA—Central cells of Ansar al-Mojahedin battalions have been set up to help families of Iraqi and Lebanese combatants living inside Iraq, in Iran, Lebanon and Europe.

Ansar al-Mojahedin comprises philanthropists who on the proposal of the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps (IRGC) have decided to help remove personal needs of families of combatants while they are out fighting the enemy.

A spokesman for the Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution of Iraq (SAIRI) said here Tuesday that SAIRI has employed all its resources to aid families of Iraqi Mojahedin and of those Iraqis who have fled the country or are imprisoned by the Baghdad regime, adding that many of these families are now living in Iran.

On the setting up of Ansar al-Mojahedin cells inside Iraq and in Europe he said that appropriate measures have been taken by Iraqi Muslims in order to help families of Iraqi Mojahedin.

The SAIRI spokesman said that Iraqi prisoners forced to attend Iraqi-imposed war fronts, are encouraged to leave the Ba'thist army to be organized in military cells fighting against the ruling Ba'th Party.

Their families, he said, will be under protection of faithful benevolent Iraqi persons.

He called on all Iraqi oppressed people to thwart plots of the world arrogance and its lackeys by understanding the situation, by participating in the financial jihad, and by exacerbating their military, political and propagating efforts.

Palestinian Uprising Confirms Islamic Revolution

LD111513 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1140 GMT 11 Jan 88

[Station commentary]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. The Islamic revolution in the West Bank and Gaza Strip has strengthened and the strikes lasted until yesterday. [passage omitted]

Yesterday the people who spent last Saturday on strike at the request of the Islamic Jihad Organization, did not go to work yesterday, also. This is the first big show of political power by the Islamic Jihad Organization and, given the extent of Islamic views among the Palestinian people, the organization's strike call has been accepted easily and with enthusiasm. [passage omitted]

Prime Minister Shamir, who advocates continued occupation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip, has commented that if the unrest ends he is prepared to discuss self-rule with the residents. This trick had no effect on the clashes, first, because the Palestinians cannot trust the words of the occupiers, and second, because their ideal is not self-rule. The Muslim Palestinians are in the throes of a struggle to liberate all of their homeland and are beginning to shake all the Middle East. [passage omitted]

Given these circumstances in which the enemy forces are daily bowing to the people and the people's Islamic movement is showing the way to liberate Jerusalem, the guarantee for the uprising's victory is the organization and rule of the Islamic factions. There have been signs of this move following the popular acceptance of the Islamic Jihad Organization's call. Also, no opportunity should be given to conciliatory and opportunist groups—whose lack of political potential has been made clear to the Palestinian people in the last 20 years—to head the uprising. These groups must follow the people's will to pursue Islam, or their leaders should be banned from the popular ranks forever. Furthermore, all international

and particularly regional support from the rank and file should assist this auspicious uprising, thus helping the Palestinian people to realize that their victory is desired by all regional nations.

Commentary on Mubarak's Visit to GCC Countries

LD111440 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1111 GMT 11 Jan 88

[Station commentary: "Husni Mubarak's Visit to GCC Countries"]

[Text] Husni Mubarak, head of the Egyptian regime, started his visit to the GCC countries 2 days ago. The first leg of his visit was Riyadh where he met and conferred with King Fahd and the U.S. defense secretary. The second leg of his journey was the United Arab Emirates.

This is the first visit of an Egyptian president to those countries since the Camp David accords were signed. It is also Husni Mubarak's first visit to a number of Arab countries which resumed relations with Cairo last Aban [23 October-21 November 1987] after the extraordinary Arab summit meeting in Amman. Of the six GCC countries—Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Bahrain, the UAE, and Oman—all except Oman severed relations with the Egyptian regime in 1979 following the signing of the Camp David accords and the Arab summit meeting in Baghdad, which voted for the suspension of Egypt's membership from the Arab League.

However, last Aban as the result of the efforts of reactionary regimes such as that of Jordan and with the cooperation and insistence of the GCC countries, the Arab leaders decided in their extraordinary session that members could resume relations with Egypt.

The resumption of diplomatic relations with Cairo and Husni Mubarak's visit to the Arab states of the region show that in those countries' opinion opposition to Camp David and to the regime bound by those accords is no longer necessary, and that the Palestine issue is not longer the prime issue. In other words, in those regimes' view the existence of the regime occupying Jerusalem is undeniable, and that it is permissible to establish relations with that regime.

Meanwhile, Egypt and the Arab states of the Persian Gulf are faced with serious common problems, including the Iran-Iraq war and bilateral military and economic relations. Regarding the imposed war, Husni Mubarak very hastily and inappropriately talked about the connection between Egyptian security and the security of the Persian Gulf. His aim in presenting that view was to provide himself with a foothold in the Persian Gulf, so that he might free himself from his long isolation play an active role in the affairs of the Persian Gulf.

There have also been some reports that show that Mubarak is trying to present a plan to the GCC countries before his visit to Washington in the next 2 weeks, a plan which stresses the need to press for the implementation of Resolution 598 for ending the Iran-Iraq war and for the imposition of an economic and military embargo on Iran. In this connection AL-SAFIR, published in Lebanon, writes: The Egyptian regime's plan, which consists of harmonizing French and U.S. military plans, was proposed during Mitterrand's visit to Cairo.

In addition, it is said that during Mubarak's visit to the Persian Gulf it is expected that the resumption of work of the Arab Military Industries Company will be discussed. In 1975 Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, and the UAE formed the Arab Military Industries Company, which was suspended after the signing of the Camp David accords. This company was to establish military industries as in Brazil. However, following the suspension of that plan, Egypt with the cooperation of the United States and France directly engaged in the production and assembly of weapons.

Meanwhile, it should be borne in mind that, despite the severance of diplomatic relations between Egypt and the Persian Gulf littoral states, secret military and economic relations were never severed. Moreover, Egypt's military experts continued their military training and consultation with those governments. In return, as has been reported by the government-controlled newspapers in Egypt, since 1974 [as heard] more than 10,000 Arab officers and soldiers have been trained at Egyptian military centers.

However, regional experts say that owing to numerous domestic problems and, more importantly, the growth of the Islamic tendency and the favorable sensitivity of Egyptian Muslims toward the Islamic Revolution of Iran, the Egyptian regime will be unable to become more involved in the Persian Gulf war. The occasional remarks of Egyptian officials are simply political maneuvers to portray Egypt's foreign policy as active.

From an economic viewpoint Mubarak will try to persuade the leaders of the GCC countries to invest in Egypt. As a result of pursuing an open-door economic policy and because of its ties to the West, Egypt is grappling with a dependent and sick economy and suffering from heavy foreign debts. It hopes that with new Arab investment it can overcome those difficulties to some extent. As a first step, Kuwait's finance minister, who ended his visit to Cairo last Friday, said his country will study the recycling of Egyptian debts. He said he discussed bilateral economic relations with Egyptian officials, particularly increasing Kuwaiti investment in Egypt—which already amounts to \$3.5 billion. Kuwait is Egypt's main creditor, and Egypt owes it \$1.5 billion.

However, from a political viewpoint, although with Mubarak's visit the Egyptian regime can be happy about its improved relations with the countries of the region, it

is clear that those countries' support for Egypt will directly affect the present relations among the countries of the region, and the insistence of GCC countries for activating Egypt's foreign policy cannot create a firm foundation for future regional relations.

Pakistani Envoy Holds Talks With Musavi

LD111159 Tehran IRNA in English 1022 GMT dd
11 Jan 88

[Text] Tehran, Jan. 11, IRNA—Prime Minister Hoseyn Musavi here Monday morning received Pakistani Ambassador to Tehran Tanvir Ahmad Khan.

During the meeting bilateral relations, the Persian Gulf and regional issues as well as the situation in Afghanistan were discussed.

The Pakistani diplomat referring to a recent meeting of joint Iran-Pakistan Economic Commission in Pakistan, expressed his country's interest in further strengthening of mutual relations.

Prime Minister Musavi said that good relations between the two countries help promote peace and stability in the region. He said in the light of traditional historical and cultural ties the future of relations between the two countries is promising.

On Afghanistan crisis the prime minister said that Iran maintains Afghans should be free to exercise their right of self-determination and that foreign aggression, no matter for how long, will not be able to defeat a Muslim nation.

Algerian Economic-Trade Delegation Arrives

LD110948 Tehran IRNA in English 0607 GMT
11 Jan 88

[Text] Tehran, Jan. 11, IRNA—Algerian Deputy Commerce Minister Mourad Medelci [name as received] heading an economic-trade delegation arrived here Sunday night for a one-week visit and for talks with Iranian officials.

Speaking to IRNA upon arrival Medelci described Tehran-Algiers relations as "highly important" and added that the year 1977 marked a broadening of relations between Iran and Algeria. Last year, Medelci added, a letter of understanding for economic cooperation was signed in the wake of the first meeting of a Iran-Algeria joint economic commission. The programs of the joint commission for the 1988 shows eagerness of both sides for a further expansion of bilateral trade and economic relations, said the Algerian official adding that his visit to Tehran is within the same framework.

Medelci said that a first Iran-Algeria agreement will be one between the Iranian and Algerian central banks to speed up trade exchanges, expected to be dls. 170 million for the current year.

Discusses Industrial, Economic Ties

*LD111530 Tehran IRNA in English 1455 GMT
11 Jan 88*

[Text] Tehran, Jan. 11, IRNA—The visiting Algerian Deputy Commerce Minister Mourad Medelci conferred with Deputy Minister of Heavy Industries Br. Ramazanian-Pur on Tehran-Algiers industrial and technical cooperation, here Monday. The meeting stressed strengthening of Iran-Algeria industrial and economic ties.

The Algerian official heading an economic delegation is here to follow up the letter of understanding inked between the two countries during Heavy Industries Minister Behzad Nabavi's recent visit to Algiers.

Experts of the two countries at present discuss ways of bilateral cooperation, in various committees.

The Algerian official arrived here Sunday night at the head of an economic delegation.

Meets with Nabavi

*LD111757 Tehran IRNA in English 1716 GMT
11 Jan 88*

[Text] Tehran, Jan. 11, IRNA—The visiting Algerian deputy commerce minister Mourad Medelci met with Minister of Heavy Industries Behzad Nabavi, here Monday.

In the meeting the two sides stressed on expansion of Tehran-Algiers economic, industrial and trade relations.

Medelci is here at the head of an economic delegation to hold talks with Iranian officials on the practical ways of executing the letter of understanding signed between Iran and Algeria. The Algerian delegation arrived here last night.

Oil Ministry Delegation Leaves for Turkey

*LD111208 Tehran IRNA in English 0850 GMT
11 Jan 88*

[Text] Tehran, Jan. 11, IRNA—An Iranian oil delegation led by director of southern oilfields of Oil Ministry Mohammad Javad Asemipur left for Istanbul Monday to discuss construction of a pipeline linking southern Iranian oilfields with Iskenderun.

The delegation will review the results of earlier talks between an Iranian task force and Turkish officials on a 600-km pipeline construction project.

The Iranian Oil Ministry said that final talks on the project will be made on the basis of already-concluded studies.

Commerce Official Assesses Import-Export Code

*LD101515 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
0330 GMT 10 Jan 88*

[Excerpts] In an interview with an IRNA correspondent, the deputy minister of commerce for foreign trade affairs gave details of a new export and import code which was approved this year. According to the regulations, he said imports serviced by allocated foreign exchange or oil exports are directly related to oil-export earnings, and the rise and fall of this figure will naturally decide the import of the above products. The effect of such changes on various products will differ according to import priorities. Under any circumstances, the provision of the basic needs and food requirements of the public is the most important.

Concerning exchange-free imports, he said: Three conditions have been imposed on such goods since their importation has caused problems in pricing and distribution. These conditions are:

1. Imported goods must not be commercially valuable.
2. They must be used for production purposes whose end products are governed by pricing and distribution codes.
3. Imported goods must not have an inflationary influence on end product pricing.

Continuing with the interview, the deputy commerce minister said: Due to pricing and distribution problems some limitations have been imposed on the importation of goods by cooperatives in the border areas and on gifts and souvenirs. Many imported goods in the above categories have entered the country in the past causing damage to domestic products and giving rise to various cultural problems in society.

With regard to export exchange rates, he said: No limitations have been set except for some changes in form and methods of use. With regard to banning ID-related [as heard] imports, he said: It was stipulated in last year's codes of practice that official permission was not required in cases of emergency importation of goods which do not require foreign exchange transactions or which are valued at less than 100,000 rials. Unfortunately, some people applied to the Customs Department to import large quantities of commercial goods without permits from corresponding ministries by providing letters of authority from the holders of various ID cards. [passage omitted] Therefore, this type of importation was stopped.

He discussed limitations on foreign exchange export certificates: Goods imported at different times with various certificates and at variable rates of exchange caused problems in stabilizing manufactured and imported goods. Therefore, this year, simultaneous with limitations on imported goods, steps were taken with regard to foreign exchange export certificates—which are

sold in the markets—and to increase and promote non-oil exports in order to encourage exporters to sell their certificates through the banking system. He added: The exchange takes place in the banking system at a fixed rate and in accordance with a list prepared by a commission set up under the Article 2 of the Procedural Codes of the Export and Import Law, given the priorities submitted by corresponding ministries. He added: The bonuses and awards provided will not be reduced for 1 year in order to allow manufacturers and exporters take steps with regard to production and export plans on the basis of corresponding costs.

The deputy commerce minister also added: In the past 2 months—since the beginning of purchasing certificates of export—\$140 million worth of various certificates for non-oil export goods has been purchased by the Markazi Bank of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Anti-Gas Uniforms Manufactured, Sent to Fronts

*NC130814 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
0330 GMT 13 Jan 88*

[Text] Thanks to the initiative and efforts of experts in a factory affiliated with the Mobilization of the Oppressed Foundation, protective gas and biological clothing has been manufactured for the first time in Iran and sent to the fronts. A Central News Unit correspondent reports:

[Begin recording] [Unidentified correspondent] At the initiative of the manager of one of Tehran's factories, two types of anti-gas protective uniforms have been manufactured by the factory and placed at the disposal of the fighters of Islam. I am in this factory now, in the presence of Mr (Nasir ol-Eslam) who initiated the manufacture of the clothing. I have asked him discuss this move.

[(Nasir ol-Eslam)] In the name of God, the almighty, the compassionate. Following the chemical attacks by the criminal Ba'thist regime of Iraq against our brave fighters and realizing the need of the fronts of the war of good against evil to confront these attacks, we decided to use our domestic potential and the existing machinery to manufacture uniforms to ward off these elements. This project started about 2 years ago and, with the help of local experts, we began manufacturing the uniforms. First, we did some research, after which we began mass production. We then placed the uniforms at the disposal of the fighters who are now using them.

A point we took into consideration when manufacturing these uniforms was that in addition to being effective against chemicals, they can also be used as anti-biological uniforms. Because the Ba'thist regime uses biological elements in some parts of the fronts, we manufactured a uniform that can be used for both purposes. We also thought about the length of the fronts and the various climatic conditions there. We then began to make plans for manufacturing other uniforms with the same characteristics as the first uniform, but which could be used in

various climatic conditions. The result was a uniform which is porous but, because of the chemical in which it is soaked, can neutralize all kinds of chemical weapons. This second type of clothing is now being tested in the laboratory. We are starting the preliminary steps for its mass production and, God willing, we will soon be able to send this clothing to our brother fighters on the fronts of the war of good against evil with it.

[Correspondent] Thank you very much.

[(Nasir ol-Eslam)] You are welcome. [end recording]

Cypriot Tanker Attacked in Port

*NC121647 Athens Domestic Service in Greek
1600 GMT 12 Jan 88*

[Text] The Cypriot tanker "United Venture" was hit by two missiles fired from Iraqi aircraft last night while it was unloading at the Iranian port of (Yavan). The tanker sustained serious damage. The crew consisted of 5 Greeks and 25 Filipinos. Two crew members were killed and six others—four Greeks and two Filipinos—are missing. The missing Greek seamen are: Ilias Ganoutas, captain; Athanasios Papadhias, first officer; Theodoros Anemoudhakis, first engineer; and (Anastasios Tsilikas), third engineer.

According to information given to the Ministry of Merchant Marine by the shipowners company Diana Shipping, Stratos Kholidhis, the tanker's second engineer, has been saved.

Communique No 3,079 Details Recent Fighting

*LD121604 Tehran IRNA in English 1555 GMT
12 Jan 88*

[Text] Tehran, Jan. 12, IRNA—Iran's naval gunboats intercepted and inspected five cargo ships and oil tankers in the Strait of Hormuz Monday but allowed them to continue voyage after making certain they were not carrying any cargo for Iraq.

The 3079th Joint Staff communique announcing the above, reported here Tuesday that the Islamic Republic Air Force effectively carried out reconnaissance flights over the Persian Gulf and the Gulf of Oman yesterday in support of the Navy despite receiving a warning from a foreign warship.

Meanwhile, Iraqi troops sustained considerable losses in men and equipment throughout the fronts Monday in artillery duels with Iran's Muslim combatants which raged more heavily in Talaiyeh and Majnun Islands.

Iranian Gendarmerie forces shelled Iraqi positions in parts of the southern and western fronts Monday, killing several enemy soldiers and setting ablaze 10 gun emplacements of theirs.

In Sardasht, Panjwin, Nahr 'Anbar and Neikhazar [name as received], northwestern and southern sectors, Iranian artillery fire silenced fire of an Iraqi tank squadron Monday, inflicting heavy losses on them.

Several Iraqi patrol convoys attempting to infiltrate Iranian positions in Qasr-e Shirin and Chazabeh, western and southern fronts, yesterday sustained heavy casualties and were forced to flee by the artillery fire of the Muslim combatants.

On Monday, Iranian combatants shelled an Iraqi troop concentration site in areas overlooking Qasr-e Shirin, western sector, killing or wounding a number of enemy soldiers and forcing them to flee.

Heavy Iranian anti-aircraft fire checked reconnaissance flights of Iraqi helicopters in Mehran, Zurbatiyah and Ramharaz, western and northwestern fronts, yesterday, concluded the communique.

Pakistan

Wali Khan on Foreign, Domestic Issues

BK121555 Dhaka SANGBAD in Bengali
2 Jan 88 pp 1, 3

[By Amir Khusru]

[Text] Wali Khan, the eminent Pakistani leader, said that the Afghan issue has been kept alive in the interest of President Ziaul Haq and his government. If there had been no Afghan revolution, then Ziaul Haq would have had a difficult time remaining in power. Most probably, he would have been removed within 2 years.

Wali Khan said that Pakistan is looking out for U.S. interests and not its own with regard to Afghanistan, and for this reason it is not possible to solve the Afghan refugee problem. These views were expressed by Wali Khan, the 70-year old president of the Awami National Party of Pakistan, during a special interview with SANGBAD.

The Pakistani Government has banned Wali Khan's entry into some provinces of the country. On this issue, he said: "Restrictions have been imposed on me. My entry into Punjab, Sind, and Baluchistan was restricted during the long 6-year period of military rule. I can go to Moscow, Delhi, or Kabul, which I did last year and this year, but I have been prohibited from entering Karachi.

Wali Khan left for Karachi on the day of this SANGBAD interview. In the interview prior to his departure, he said: "I am going to Karachi in defiance of the ban. Maybe I will be sent back again." He added: I am held up in such a way that sometimes it seems I am detained in a jail.

Plainclothes policemen keep a strict vigil on Wali Khan. Therefore, this SANGBAD interview was conducted at the residence of Ghulam Ahmad Bilore, a senior vice president of the Awami National Party. At the time of entry into the house situated on Jheel Road in Peshawar at 1000 in the morning, policemen were visible on all roads around the house.

Wali Khan said: The present government continues to remain in power because it is serving the interests of the United States. He said that if the Afghan problem were viewed entirely in the light of Pakistani interests, it would be solved within 1 week. The key to the solution of this problem now lies in the hands of President Reagan, not with Ziaul Haq. Only the United States can decide whether or not the Afghan problem will be solved. And this is the most unfortunate thing for Pakistan.

He was asked: How can a solution to the Afghan problem be found, and does he agree with the policy of the Pakistani Government in this regard? He replied: "Not at all." The Ziaul Haq government's policy on the Afghan issue cannot get any support because Pakistan acts at the suggestion of the United States. Pakistan is fighting the United States' war, he added. He said that the Afghan refugee problem is entirely Afghanistan's affair. If Pakistan wants a solution, then it should recognize the Afghan Government and start direct negotiations with it.

Wali Khan said that he also wanted the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan. However, for Pakistan there are two possible solutions for the withdrawal of Soviet troops: war or negotiation. If war is viewed as a solution to the problem, then I say it is not possible for the "mujahids," President Ziaul Haq, and even the United States to win this war. Therefore, negotiation is the only other way to find a solution to the problem. The proposals, including the mutual national reconciliation made by the Afghan Government, were not accepted. So, there was no way open to Afghanistan other than war. The aged leader said: "This has led to the possibility of hurting the solidarity and sovereignty of Pakistan."

The Awami National Party president also discussed the movement against the present military rule in Pakistan. He frankly discussed the successes and failures of the Movement for the Restoration of Democracy or, in short, MRD, which is Pakistan's opposition political alliance. The MRD was formed in February 1981 by 11 big and small political parties with the objective of opposing Pakistan's military rule. At present, there are only nine parties in this alliance.

Wali Khan said that Ziaul Haq has been kept in power only to serve U.S. interests and that the U.S.-supported Pakistan Army is determining the future of the country. The Army will remain in power even without Ziaul Haq. On 14 August 1947, the United States decided that a

government serving U.S. interests should be in power in that country. I have the proof in my hand in this regard and I am also writing books on this history.

Wali Khan said: "The United States determined that the Pakistani Armed Forces, its special friends, would run the administration of the country".

Wali Khan stated: "Whatever steps have been taken for holding the partyless elections were done with the intent to destroy and weaken the political system and confuse the politicians. The Americans wanted this country to be led by the Armed Forces, the bureaucracy, and some motivated groups, and there should be no contribution to the nation from politics or politicians."

Expressing a feeling of despair for the future of the MRD—Pakistan's opposition political alliance—Wali Khan, who is the leader of one of the participating parties, said that although there is a ban on politics in the country, the partyless elections are being held. The partyless election system does not exist in any part of the world. He noted that the political parties are not allowed to operate, that restrictions are imposed on meetings and gatherings, and that the ruling clique is carrying out different conspiracies against politics. What effective role could the MRD play in the face of these restrictions?

He said: "The result will be very grave because the people are losing confidence in political moves. At one stage they will resort to a bloody revolution with weapons in their hands, as happened in Iran and Afghanistan."

When asked why the political parties are not agitating for the return of a democratic system, he said that when restrictions are imposed on the activities of the political parties, no normal channels are left open for them to launch a movement. The political parties can organize movements only under a constitutional and democratic system.

He affirmed that there has been a change in the political climate in Pakistan due to the unrestrained import of arms. The country has been flooded with weapons after armed incidents in Afghanistan and Iran. Violence and bloody incidents are increasing with a large number of armed people from foreign countries entering the country, and this has also made the people more aggressive.

When asked to comment on the recent Reagan-Gorbachev summit, Wali Khan said that the INF treaty is a welcome step from the international point of view. However, President Reagan on one side speaks of peace in the United States, and on the other, speaks of war in Pakistan. By increasing aid to the rebels in Afghanistan, President Reagan has only escalated the war. He is only fanning the flames by pouring "oil" into the fire of war.

The aged leader said: "Until the United States stops interfering in the affairs of Afghanistan, the Soviet troops will not withdraw. This means the war will continue and people will die."

Experimental Satellite To Be Launched in June *BK120333 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu* 0200 GMT 12 Jan 88

[Text] Pakistan will launch its first experimental satellite in June of this year. A spokesman for the Space and Upper Atmosphere Research Commission said in Lahore yesterday that the experimental satellite "Badr" will weigh about 75 kg and will orbit at a distance of 300-400 km in space, generally passing over Pakistan twice and sometimes three times a day.

The entire work relating to the manufacture of the satellite has been accomplished by Pakistani engineers and scientists. With the assistance and cooperation of Arab countries, the experimental satellite will also help in conducting various experiments to further promote space technology, the spokesman added.

Sri Lanka

'Subversives' Attack Home Guard Camp, Wound 4 *BK110635 Colombo LANKA PUWATH in English* 0621 GMT 11 Jan 88

[Text] Colombo, Jan 11 (LANKA PUWATH)—A gang of armed subversives attacked the home guard camp at Apkumbuka, Horana 25 miles from Colombo, in the Colombo District in the early hours of this morning, police told LANKA PUWATH.

They said that four home guards were seriously wounded in the attack.

Further on JVP Attack *BK110944 Hong Kong AFP in English 0930 GMT* 11 Jan 88

[Text] Colombo, Jan 11 (AFP)—Sinhalese extremists wounded four police volunteers Monday in a failed attempt to attack a police training centre, officials said.

About 15 fighters of the banned Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna (JVP—People's Liberation Front) launched a dawn attack on a training camp at Kumbuka [place name as received], 25 kilometers (15 miles) south of here, the officials said.

Police trainees repulsed the assault, in which four volunteers were shot and wounded, they said. JVP casualties were not immediately known.

President Junius Jayewardene vowed again Monday to destroy the JVP, accusing it of carrying out a terror campaign to oust the government.

"I promise to carry on our fight till this threat to democracy, Buddhism and everything else that we value is ended," Mr. Jayewardene told students in Anuradhapura, 206 kilometers (125 miles) north of here.

He likened the situation in the island to 1971, when the JVP led a bloody insurrection in which at least 10,000 people died, and said wiping out the ultra-Marxist group was the government's top priority.

The JVP is violently opposed to the government and to a New Delhi-backed peace plan aimed at ending nearly five years of Tamil separatist violence.

It has stepped up its attacks on ruling party supporters and the military since the peace pact was signed on July 29.

Last month, JVP gunmen killed the ruling party chairman and the chief of the police anti-JVP unit. The group is suspected of trying to assassinate Mr. Jayewardene in a grenade attack on a meeting in Parliament on August 18.

Jayewardene on 'Subversive Group'

BK111011 Colombo LANKA PUWATH in English
0931 GMT 11 Jan 88

["OANA/pool" item]

[Excerpt] Colombo, Jan 11 (LANKA PUWATH)—Sri Lankan President J R Jayewardene today said that until attempts to overthrow the duly elected government and the destruction of democracy in this country ceases, the war against violence launched by the government will not stop, the Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation announced in its afternoon news bulletin today.

Mr. Jayewardene presided at a ceremony to mark the distribution of free school textbooks at Anuradhapura, capital of Sri Lanka's North Central Province this morning.

Speaking further, President Jayewardene said only enemies of the state should fear and not those who oppose violence.

He said that, as in 1971, a subversive group is behind all political killings and attempts to overthrow the government by force.

The aim of these subversive elements is to destroy the democratic process of the country, Buddhism and to spill innocent blood.

President Jayewardene assured this will not be possible as long as the United National Party was in power. [passage omitted]

Land Reform Minister Says Refugees Can Return

BK110337 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0240 GMT 11 Jan 88

[Text] The Sri Lankan minister for land reforms, Mr. Gamini Dissanayake, says the conditions are fit now for the Sri Lankan refugees in Tamil Nadu to return home. Speaking at a meeting in Madurai, he said all basic facilities are being provided to the refugees to settle down. Mr. Dissanayake said about 600 crore rupees has been earmarked for their rehabilitation. He also said that the Indo-Sri Lankan agreement will ensure peace in the region. Our Colombo correspondent, Plabon Majumder, adds that at least 26,000 more refugees are to return to the island in batches this month. The next batch is to leave on Friday [15 January]. The government agents of 11 districts are meeting in Colombo today to chalk out the programs for the resettlement of refugees who are coming back from Tamil Nadu.

Meanwhile, LTTE men attacked a camp of the TELO in Vavuniya yesterday, killing three persons. The LTTE has distributed pamphlets in the districts of Vavuniya and Batticaloa asking the residents to keep away from normal activities for the Pongal [Tamil festival on 15 January] day.

In another development, 14,000 Muslim refugees who were displaced by the LTTE attack on their villages in the eastern provinces recently are being sent back to their homes as normalcy has returned.

Local Councils Set Up To Decentralize Power

BK081139 Colombo International Service in English
1045 GMT 8 Jan 88

[Text] Today marks the inauguration of a network of pradeshiya sabhas [local councils] throughout the island. Sixty-eight pradeshiya sabhas, to which members will return uncontested, will hold their first meeting at 1600 today. Reports indicate that arrangements have been made to hold the meetings in several areas with the participation of the respective members of parliament.

In a message to mark the occasion, Prime Minister R. Premadasa states that it is a unique step in the devolution of power to the people at the grass-roots level. It is the culmination of the process of decentralization of the powers and functions of the local government and development administration. The prime minister notes that the new system envisages optimum participation of the people in decisionmaking at the local levels. Mr. Premadasa adds that he considers the establishment of pradeshiya sabhas as an important step in the transference of the powers and the functions of government, which are concentrated in the hands of a few, to the masses.

The commissioner of local government, S.A. Jinadasa, said that the first meeting of the pradeshiya sabhas will be devoted to explaining the aims of the sabhas and the responsibility vested in them. The approval of the sabhas

will also be sought to establish the pradeshiya sabha fund. Special commissioners will administer the pradeshiya sabhas other than those to which members were returned uncontested.

Violence Continues in Tamil-Dominated Areas

New IPKF Commander in North

BK081610 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 8 Jan 88

[Text] In Sri Lanka, five soldiers of the peacekeeping force [PKF] were killed and three injured in separate incidents. Three PKF jawans [soldiers] were killed this morning at Omtai in north Vavuniya District when their vehicle was blown up by a landmine. Three soldiers were also injured. In the second incident, a PKF soldier was killed by the LTTE at Mullaitivu. The third incident occurred in Jaffna where a soldier was killed in sniper fire.

The Central Committee of the CPI-M has expressed the view that the PKF should continue to stay in Sri Lanka. The Central Committee, which held a 4-day session in Calcutta, has called upon the Tamils in the island to extend more support to the PKF. It has criticized the LTTE for going back on its commitment to the Indo-Sri Lanka agreement. Releasing the statement of the Central Committee, the party general secretary, Mr E.M.S. Namboodirad, told newsmen that a solution to the Sri Lankan problem lies in the proper implementation of the agreement.

Major General S.C. Sirdeshpande has been appointed the general officer commanding of the PKF in north Sri Lanka. He will take over the command from Major General Harkirat Singh.

Recent Fighting Detailed

BK100420 Delhi Doordarshan Television Network
in English 1600 GMT 9 Jan 88

[Text] In Sri Lanka, a land mine hit a goods train going from Gelioya to Batticaloa injuring 10 persons this afternoon. The injured included four railway employees traveling in the guard's car and six personnel who were escorting the train. Reports from Batticaloa say that the blast damaged the guard's bogey and two oil tankers and derailed them.

AIR Colombo correspondent Plabon Majumder reports that the land mine blasted as the train was nearing (Sandeveli), about 18 kilometers south of Batticaloa. The injured railway employees have been admitted in a hospital and PKF [peacekeeping force] reinforcements rushed to the spot. The train was later brought to Batticaloa.

Meanwhile, in Jaffna the peacekeeping force today captured a large quantity of arms and ammunition during search operations. They apprehended seven LTTE men.

Two peacekeeping force personnel were killed in the operation. Seventeen hardcore LTTE men also surrendered to the peacekeeping force at Navatkuly area. The GOC [general officer commander] in chief, Southern Command, Lieutenant General Deepender Singh, visited the Jaffna city today. He was accompanied by GOC Major General Sirdeshpande. The citizens committee of Jaffna requested them to widen the scope for people's participation in the PKF activities. Lieutenant General Deepender Singh assured them that suitable action in this regard will be taken soon.

Jaffna city remained normal today. Doordarshan correspondent Arshi reports from Jaffna that prices of essential items are under control and there is no shortage of these items.

The Sri Lankan refugees in Tamil Nadu are continuing to go back home following gradual return of normalcy. Two hundred and fifty four refugees arrived in Talaimannar in northern Sri Lanka from Rameshwaram in Tamil Nadu on Wednesday. On arrival each family was given 300 Sri Lankan rupees and will be given 1,700 more within a week. The refugees also got gift packets of essential items from the UN High Commissioner for Refugees. The peacekeeping force is giving full protection to the refugees. Our correspondent Arshi reports that the refugees expressed their happiness on returning home and thanked India for the necessary facilities they were given in Tamil Nadu.

3 LTTE 'Terrorists' Killed

BK100955 Colombo LANKA PUWATH in English
0947 GMT 10 Jan 88

["OANA/pool" item]

[Text] Colombo Jan 10 (LANKA PUWATH)—Twenty four terrorists, five of them women, surrendered to the Indian Peace Keeping Force (IPKF) in Jaffna yesterday.

Official sources told LANKA PUWATH that 17 terrorists including 5 women surrendered with their arms to the IPKF at Navatkuly while two others surrendered at Karainagar, one at Pandethiruppu and four more at Kokuvil.

One LTTE terrorist was shot dead by the IPKF at Keerimalai, Jaffna after he charged at an IPKF post.

Two terrorists were shot dead by the IPKF at Karainagar. Thirteen cyanide capsules and one pistol were found in their possession.

Four terrorists were also captured by the IPKF, one of whom had thrown a hand grenade at the Indian troops.

The IPKF had also raided a terrorist hideout at Ariyalai, Jaffna, and seized 50 mortar bombs.

At Padirippu, Batticaloa the IPKF seized 1 AK-47 rifle and 1 heavy medium machine gun.

LTTE Attacks Freight Train

*BK121324 Colombo International Service in English
1045 GMT 12 Jan 88*

[Text] The LTTE ambushed and opened fire at a goods train when it was leaving the Batticaloa railway station yesterday. Official sources told LANKA PUWATH that when the terrorists opened fire on the train, troops of the Indian Peacekeeping Force counterattacked wanting the terrorists to flee.

There was no damage to the train, which continued on its return journey to Colombo after discharging urgently need stocks of food and fuel. It was the same train which was derailed last Saturday at (Chittankudy) after a LTTE terrorist mine had badly damaged one of those goods wagons.

More Refugees Return

*BK121616 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 12 Jan 88*

[Text] The third batch of over 300 Sri Lankan refugees from Tamil Nadu has arrived at Talaimannar in north-western Sri Lanka. With this, the total number of refugees who have returned to the island so far is 800. The

refugees were received by the Sri Lankan and Indian officials. The Sri Lankan Government has made arrangements for their rehabilitation and resettlement in the areas from where they were displaced during the ethnic conflict. They are given 12,000 rupees and dry rations for 6 months.

The Peacekeeping Force [PKF] recovered large quantities of arms and ammunition during searches in the past 24 hours in the Jaffna Peninsula. It received support from the local people in the search operations and recovered about 600 hand grenades, 200 bombs and 20,000 rounds of ammunition.

In the Kayts Islands near north of Jaffna, more than 20 LTTE personnel were captured by the PKF.

An official spokesman told newsmen in New Delhi today that all schools have now opened in Jaffna. The attendance is about 90 percent despite threats from the LTTE cadres.

Meanwhile, in the Vavuniya sector, three members of the Tamil Eelam Liberation Organization were killed by the LTTE. They also attacked a PKF party and the peacekeeping force returned the fire. The LTTE leader Dalip was injured.